



FILE - In this Feb. 28, 2006 file photo, Anna Nicole Smith, leaves the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta, File)

Jury convicts Smith's psychiatrist, boyfriend

By LINDA DEUTSCH,

AP Special Correspondent


LOS ANGELES — A jury on Thursday convicted Anna Nicole Smith's psychiatrist Khristine Eroshevich and boyfriend Howard K. Stern of conspiracy counts but acquitted the doctor who prescribed drugs for the former Playboy model of all charges.

Prosecutors contended during the nine-week trial that the defendants were dazzled by Smith's glamor and filled her demands for prescription drugs to protect their insider status in her personal life and her celebrity world.

The jury deliberated about 58 hours after being asked to decide if the three defendants were trying to relieve Smith's emotional and physical pain or were feeding her addiction to prescription drugs.

The only conviction against Stern was for giving false names and acting by fraud to obtain prescriptions. Eroshevich was also convicted of unlawfully prescribing Vicodin by fraud.

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Wild storm leaves behind 1 death, damage, injuries

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In this Oct. 27, 2010 file photo, Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland greets seniors at the Maple Heights Senior Center, in Maple Heights, Ohio. When a widely publicized poll showed John Kasich with a commanding, 10-point advantage in Ohio's governor's race, Strickland's aides fought back hard _ Against the poll.

Associated Press

Political gripes in Internet age

By DAVID ESPO,

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — When a widely publicized poll showed Republican John Kasich with a commanding, 10-point advantage in Ohio's governor's race, aides to Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland fought back hard. Against the poll.

"With just two weeks until Election Day, it is our opinion that the Quinnipiac polls are irresponsible, inaccurate and completely removed from the reality of the Ohio governor's race," the campaign said in a statement that noted other private and public surveys were showing a much closer contest.

The Quinnipiac University Polling Institute, an organization with an unchallenged reputation for nonpartisanship, responded mildly. "We stand by our numbers and our overall record for reliability," said Doug Schwartz, the organization's polling director.

Continued on Page 5

Indonesian disasters death toll tops 400

KRISTEN GELINEAU

Associated Press

MENTAWAI ISLANDS, Indonesia (AP) — The fisherman was jolted awake by the powerful earthquake and ran with his screaming neighbors to high ground. He said they watched as the sea first receded and then came roaring back "like a big wall" that swept away their entire village.

"Suddenly trees, houses and all things in the village were sucked into the sea and nothing was left," Joni Sageru recalled Thursday in one of the first survivor accounts of this week's tsunami that slammed into islands off western Indonesia.



Residents survey the damage caused by Mount Merapi eruption in Kinahrejo village, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010.

*Associated Press
Continued on Page A14*

Wild storm leaves behind 1 death, damage, injuries



VALE, N.C. — People from the Dakotas to North Carolina were dealing with the aftermath of a massive storm that roared across the country, unleashing dozens of tornadoes, rain, flooding and eventually snow to some places, leaving behind plenty of destruction and one death in Michigan.

Heavy snow and strong winds battered the Dakotas for a second day Wednesday, with visibility reduced by blowing snow and roadways covered by ice, snow and slush.

"It's not good to be out here for anybody," Highway Patrol Capt. Eric Pederson said. "It's just tough going anywhere." Conditions were improving early Thursday and fall-like weather was expected to return later this week, as the front that brought the wild ride makes its way off the East Coast.

In central Michigan, where storms knocked out power to thousands, Kent County Sheriff officials said a contracted utility worker clearing fallen trees was killed

Wednesday night in Boyne Township after he touched a live wire.

In North Carolina, Yolanda Corona prayed she wouldn't die when winds from the massive storm blew through her neighborhood.

She was watching television with 10 relatives when the windows blew out of the living room. The chimney caved in. A tree plunged through the roof.

The family huddled in a back bedroom, whispering prayers, crying and holding each other. Somehow, they survived.

"We thought we were going to die. We were just so scared. We didn't have time to do anything. We all just listened and prayed for our lives," Jessica Vargas, Corona's 18-year-old granddaughter, recalled Wednesday, looking at the family's possessions, which had been strewn around their muddy yard the night before. No one was seriously

hurt, but now the family must find somewhere to live.

The rare, fast-moving storm that destroyed their home started in the Midwest on Tuesday, moving into the southern and eastern U.S.

In suburban Chicago, Helen Miller, 41, was hurt when a branch fell about 65 feet from a large tree, crashed into her car and impaled her stomach. Doctors removed the branch and Miller's husband said she asked him to hang on to it.

"She wants to save it for an art project or something," Todd Miller told the Chicago Sun-Times. "She's a bit of a free spirit, so I ran with it."

Eight tornadoes touched down in Indiana, three in Kentucky, and six in Ohio, including one with gusts of at least 111 mph that ripped through a village in the northwest part of the state, destroying several homes. Tornadoes were confirmed or suspected as far east as Virginia and power was out for

a time to countless customers. Pat Tanner, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service in Greer, S.C., said a cold front is moving east and meeting warm, moist air causing instability in the atmosphere and spawning the storms. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said the storm had a pressure reading Tuesday that was among the lowest ever in a non-tropical storm in the mainland U.S.

Tornadoes whirled through Racine County, Wis., where two people were injured when a section of roof was torn off a tractor factory, and Peotone, Ill., where three people were injured when a home's roof came off.

Tornado watches and warnings were issued all across the country.

In North Carolina, at least 11 people were hurt by the winds that destroyed Corona's home, but none seriously. □

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Tests warned of cement troubles before BP blowout

By DINA CAPPIELLO,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tests performed before the deadly blowout of BP's oil well in the Gulf of Mexico should have raised doubts about the cement used to seal the well, but the company and its cementing contractor used it anyway, investigators with the president's oil spill commission said Thursday. It's the first finding from the commission looking into the causes of the April 20 explosion that killed 11 workers and led to the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history. And it appears to conflict with statements made by Halliburton Co., which has said its tests showed the cement mix was stable. The company instead has said BP's well design and operations are responsible for the disaster. The cement mix's failure to prevent oil and gas from entering the well has been identified by BP and others as one of the causes of the accident.

BP and Halliburton decided to use a foam slurry created by injecting nitrogen into cement to secure the bottom of the well, a decision outside experts have criticized.

The panel says that of four tests done in February and April by Halliburton, only one — the last — showed the mix would hold. But the results of that single successful test were not shared with BP, and may not have reached Halliburton, before the cement was pumped, according to a letter sent to

commissioners Thursday by chief investigative counsel Fred H. Bartlit, Jr.

BP had in hand at the time of the blowout the results of only one of the tests — a February analysis sent to BP by Halliburton in a March 8 e-mail that indicated the cement could fail. The slurry tested in that case was a slightly different blend, and assumed a slightly different well design, but there is no indication that Halliburton flagged the problem for BP, or that BP had concerns, the letter says.

"Halliburton (and perhaps BP) should have considered redesigning the foam slurry before pumping it at the Macondo well," Bartlit writes. Independent tests conducted for the commission by Chevron on a nearly identical mixture were also released Thursday. The results conclude the cement mix was unstable, raising questions about the validity of Halliburton's final test.

BP, as part of its internal investigation, also conducted tests that showed the cement mix was flawed, but its analysis was criticized by Halliburton, which said it was not the correct formula. The company also said the testing Halliburton did on the cement was incomplete.

By contrast, the commission obtained proprietary additives from Halliburton as well as a recipe to recreate the slurry that was used on the well.

A spokeswoman for Halliburton said the company was reviewing the findings

FILE - In this April 21, 2010 file aerial photo taken in the Gulf of Mexico more than 50 miles southeast of Venice, La., the Deepwater Horizon oil rig is seen burning. Tests performed before the deadly blowout of BP's oil well in the Gulf of Mexico should have raised doubts about the cement used to seal the well, but the company and its cementing contractor used it anyway, U.S. investigators with the president's oil spill commission said Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert, File)

and would have a response later Thursday.

In testimony before the joint Coast Guard-Bureau of Ocean Energy Management investigative panel, Halliburton engineer Jesse Gagliano, when asked if he would pour the same cement again, said he would.

"I am comfortable with the slurry design," he said.

The independent investigators do not address other decisions that could have contributed to the cement's failure, such as BP's decision to use fewer centralizers than recommended by Halliburton. Centralizers make sure the well's piping is centered inside the well so the cement bonds correctly. BP has also been criticized for not performing a cement bond long, a test that checks after the cement is pumped down whether it is secure. There are also questions about whether BP pumped down enough cement to seal off the bottom of the well, which was located more than three miles below sea level. □



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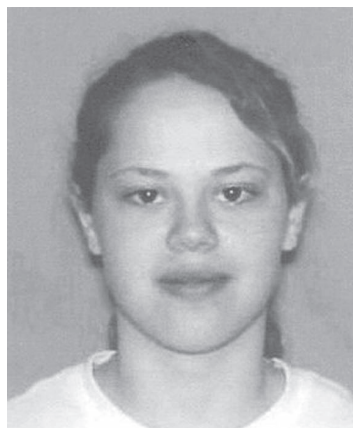
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This undated photo provided by the Michigan State Police Department shows Taylor E. Manley. Authorities say they are investigating the deaths of a 38-year-old Michigan man Raymond R. Bush and 15-year-old Manley he's suspected of abducting as a possible murder-suicide.

(AP Photo/Michigan State Police)

Autopsy: Abducted Mich. girl shot multiple times

NEWPORT, Mich. — A Michigan medical examiner has ruled that the death of a 15-year-old girl who was abducted was a homicide and that the man suspected of kidnapping her killed himself. The Wayne County medical examiner's office says Thursday that 38-year-old Raymond R. Bush of Newport died of a single self-inflicted gunshot wound and that Taylor E. Manley was shot multiple times.

State Police Detective Sgt. George D. Pratt says Bush's ex-girlfriend told investigators he called her Wednesday morning and said he fatally shot Taylor and planned to kill himself. Their bodies were found Wednesday.

Taylor was scheduled to testify against Bush on Wednesday on charges alleging he sexually assaulted her. State police issued an Amber Alert on Wednesday saying Taylor had been abducted and listing Bush as a suspect. □

Civil War dolls get X-rayed for signs of smuggling

RICHMOND, Va. — Two Civil War-era dolls thought to have been used to smuggle medicine past Union blockades were X-rayed Wednesday, disclosing hollowed papier-mache heads that once could have contained quinine or morphine for wounded or malaria-stricken Confederate troops.

The 150-year-old dolls, dubbed Nina and Lucy Ann, were likely packed with the drugs and shipped from Europe in the hope that Union troops would not inspect toys when looking for contraband, a museum official said.

Nina and Lucy Ann were taken to VCU Medical Center from their home next door, The Museum of the Confederacy, to see if the contours inside their craniums and upper bodies were roomy enough to carry the medicines.

The conclusion: yes.

The next step could be forensic testing for any traces of the drugs.

The dolls were given to the museum by donors who said they were used to smuggle medicine past Northern blockades to Southern troops.

[Related: Weekend search may help map Civil War site in Mo.]

Nina was donated to the museum in 1923 by the children of Gen. James Patton Anderson, who commanded the Tennessee Army of the Confederacy. She has red felt boots.

Lucy Ann, attired in a salmon-colored cape and dress, was given to the museum in 1976 by an anonymous donor. She is adorned with a coral necklace.

Lucy Ann has an open gash on the rear of her bonneted head, possibly made when its contents were emptied. Nina was likely disassembled then stitched back together.

Museum officials believe the dolls were in fact used for smuggling in the Civil War.

"In all of the research that I have been able to do, these are the only two confirmed smuggling dolls that I've been able to find," said Catherine M. Wright, collections manager at the museum. The X-rays were conducted as part of the museum's continuing research of its vast Confederate holdings, believed to be the largest in the U.S.

[Related: Neighbors to picket woman's Confederate flag]

"People have been so interested in children's toys and dolls from the Civil War in general," she said. "The smuggling aspect is very captivating."

Wright carried the dolls, each 2 to 3 feet long, in a box to the radiology department of the hospital.

Registered technologist Lanea Bare gently placed each doll on the X-ray table, taking images of each facing up, then on their sides. Ghostly images were then displayed on a screen in the busy radiology department, drawing stares and wisecracks from passing doctors and technicians as the dolls lay neatly back in their box.

"Looking here, this looks like a cavity in the head and upper chest," said Dr. Ann S. Fulcher, pointing to Nina's image on the screen. "That's probably where the majority of the goods, the medicine, was put."



The hospital visit was free-of-charge.

The dolls' heads and shoulders are stitched to the bodies, which are stuffed with wool or cotton. Safety pins used to secure their clothing, including undergarments, were visible in the X-rays.

The museum knows little about the dolls' silent service to the Confederacy.

One theory is that they were purchased in Europe, then shipped to a Southern port with the medicines stuffed in their heads to avoid detection by the North's blockade of Southern ports.

"The idea behind the smuggling dolls is that even if a ship was boarded and searched, it was unlikely that they were going to do such a thorough search that they would find this medication hidden inside of dolls," Wright said.

The blockade from 1861 until 1865 was intended to thwart the delivery of arms, soldiers and supplies such as medicine to the South. Rhett Butler, the fictional rogue in Margaret Mitchell's "Gone With the Wind," was a blockade runner. A well-known illustration from the period shows a woman tying bundles of medication under her hoop dress for delivery to Confederate troops, Wright said.

Once the dolls reached a port, the powdered quinine would be pressed into pills for Southern troops, Wright said.

Malaria was widespread among Union and Confederate troops. Some 900,000 Union troops contracted malaria during the war, leaving 4,700 dead, according to the "Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War."

Statistics for Southern troops were not compiled but malaria was probably more widespread, said Robert Krick, park historian at the Richmond National Battlefield Park, which includes the site of the Confederacy's largest hospital.

Wright, the museum collections manager, was elated after the examination.

"This has been really thrilling," she said. "It's not often that you get to research a topic that one else has ever worked with before." □



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POLLS GONE WILD

Continued from Front Page

The flare-up underscored a widely held view among both politicians and pollsters that polls, once used largely to help a candidate shape strategy, increasingly can affect the outcome of political campaigns in the Internet Age. Candidates and their allies instantly disseminate bare-bones results, seizing on those that reflect well on their own prospects, ignoring the rest and generally skipping over details that might caution people about reading too much into them.

"They can affect contributions. They do affect news coverage in a substantial way. They can affect volunteers. They can affect (voter) interest, and through all those things can affect the outcome" of a race said Mark Mellman, a Democratic pollster not involved in the Ohio governor's contest.

Democratic complaints this year are sometimes dismissed as sour grapes in a campaign trending against them. But Republicans, too, express unease about the proliferation of polls.

"There's a great deal of frustration with media polls, which I don't think spend the kind of money to do this the proper way," said Rob Jesmer, the executive director of the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

According to HuffPost Pollster, 26 polls have been released on the Strickland-Kasich race since Labor Day by 13 organizations. An additional 22 surveys cover the Illinois Senate race, 21 a three-way Florida Senate contest and 20 the contest in

Nevada.

As in Ohio, many produce startlingly different results within the space of a few days for reasons that go unexplained in the daily communications battle of modern-day campaigns.

"The public has an absolute right to be skeptical about any polling information" that doesn't include detailed material, said Richard Czuba, whose Detroit-based firm, Glengariff Group, Inc., does survey work for The Detroit News and WDIV Local 4.

Jesmer's statement, suggesting that not all polls are equal, hints at the complexities involved.

Demographics — making sure a survey reflects the views of a proper mix of men, women, older and younger voters, Republicans and Democrats — are critical to producing a poll that is reliable. A pollster's decisions on which respondents are likely to vote is key.

Professional pollsters also differ on another big issue. Most if not all firms that work for candidates and the major political parties, as well as Quinnipiac and some other organizations, use live phone operators to ask questions.

Other well-known pollsters such as Rasmussen, Public Policy Polling and SurveyUSA Research rely on automated calls, in which an individual who answers the phone responds to a series of recorded questions by touching the appropriate number on the keypad.

Automated calls are cheaper, but a debate flourishes about their relative reliability.

"I am a firm advocate of live operator telephone calls," said

Czuba. "For one thing, you know who is on the other end of the call. If you are doing operator calls, you can screen out the 13-year-old who thinks it would be fun to go along and say, sure, they are eligible to vote."

"We were formed to give people a lower-cost polling option," said Tom Jensen, the head of Public Policy Polling, and he and others defend surveys done by recording.

"Generally speaking, the automated survey process is identical to that of traditional, operator-assisted research firms such as Gallup, Harris, and Roper," Rasmussen says on its website.

The Associated Press has an editorial policy not to report polls that rely on automated calls.

Advocates of automated calling also point to examples in which automated polls appeared to detect the mood of an electorate sooner than operator-assisted calls. They cite last spring's Republican Senate primary in Kentucky, where automated polls showed tea party-backed Rand Paul well ahead of Trey Grayson at a time private surveys by veteran Republican pollsters showed the race tight.

Either way, the difficulties in producing a reliable survey are considerable.

"Women answer the phone more than men, older people are home more and answer more than younger people, and rural residents typically answer the phone more frequently than urban residents," the Rasmussen website adds.

Pollsters must make decisions about which people are likely to vote.



In this Oct. 27, 2010 file photo, Ohio Republican gubernatorial candidate John Kasich talks to supporters at a rally at the Strongsville Community Center, in Strongsville, Ohio. When a widely publicized poll showed Kasich with a commanding, 10-point advantage in Ohio's governor's race, Gov. Ted Strickland's aides fought back hard. _ Against the poll.

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NASHUA, N.H. – A teenager accused of hacking a New Hampshire mother to death during a home invasion and severely injuring her young daughter wanted to break into houses, kill their occupants and eat the victims, a witness testified Thursday.

Steven Spader, 18, was obsessed with killing people in the weeks before the gruesome attack that ended with the death of Kimberly Cates in the hamlet of Mont Vernon, according to the testimony of Quinn Glover, who was at the scene.

NH man wanted to kill people, eat victims

Spader wanted to break into homes, kill the occupants, stay overnight, roast and eat the victims, and stage their bodies for the media, Glover said. He talked at one point about putting the heads of his victims on stakes, he said.

Immediately after the attacks, Spader was “euphoric, excited,” Glover said. “He seemed like he had just gotten off a roller coaster,” he said. “He came out with the machete covered in blood and hair.”

As Glover testified, Spader stared at him with his fingers pressed in front of him in his standard pose during the four days of the trial so far.

As the lawyers talked to the judge at the bench at one point, Spader loudly cracked his knuckles while staring at Glover, who stared back.

Spader is charged with murder, attempted murder and other felonies in the death of Cates and the injuries to her now 12-year-old daughter, Jaimie, who told police she survived the attack by feigning death.

Glover has pleaded guilty to robbery, burglary and conspiracy. He agreed to cooperate with the state in exchange for a 20-year prison sentence.

Several hours before the attacks, Glover said, Spader had sent him a text message telling him they needed to complete the goals of their brotherhood, the Disciples of Destruction.

Glover said Spader and co-defendants Christopher Gribble and Billy Marks originally targeted the house next door to the Cates home but ruled it out as too big

just minutes before the home invasion.

After they broke in, Glover said, the four approached a closed bedroom door with weapons out. He said Spader and Gribble were in the lead, Spader with a machete, Gribble with a knife. Glover said that when the screams started, he turned around and covered his ears. Prosecutor Peter Hinckley asked him why.

“I walked away because I wanted to walk away from the situation,” Glover said. “I didn’t take anything that was said prior seriously. That was my mistake.”

Then the attack began in earnest, he said.

“They were terrified. I heard cries for help, begging, ‘no, no,’” Glover testified.

“I heard screams and cries. I heard, ‘Jaimie, run! Please don’t do it,’” he said.

He said he did not see the attacks but entered the room afterward. He said he saw Jaimie crumpled on the floor, tangled in the curtains covering a sliding glass door. “I thought for sure she was dead,” Glover said.

“On the bed there was a woman covered in blood,” Glover said. “She was moving somewhat and moaning.” He said he saw Gribble put a knife to the right side of her throat. Glover said that he turned away, and that when he looked back, the knife was on the other side of Kimberly Cates’ throat.

Defense attorneys have asked questions of other witnesses about a Samurai sword. Glover said that he owns one, but that it was under his mattress in his Amherst home at the time of the attacks.

Glover said he had an open knife with him at the house. At home, he said, he would tuck it inside “the ripped back of my teddy bear.”

Marks has agreed to testify against Spader and Gribble, whose trial is slated for February. A fifth defendant, Autumn Savoy, pleaded guilty to hindering the prosecution and conspiracy in exchange for a 5- to 19-year sentence. He is also expected to testify against Spader.

Marks has yet to enter a plea, but the state did drop a first-degree murder charge. □

FBI learned of subway

terror suspect in January

WASHINGTON – The FBI learned last January that a Pakistani-born man arrested in the DC subway-bomb sting was trying to make contact with terrorist groups to help him participate in jihad against U.S. forces overseas, according to a court record. FBI agent Charles A. Dayoub said in an affidavit unsealed Thursday that Farooque Ahmed, 34, of Ashburn, Va., and an unnamed associate hoped to fight in Afghanistan or Pakistan early next year.

Dayoub also said the FBI subsequently learned that Ahmed either bought, or tried to buy, weapons in May 2008 and February 2009 and is believed to have used firearms to train for his goal of traveling to Afghanistan to kill Americans.

Ahmed was arrested Wednesday and accused of casing Washington-area subway stations in what he thought was an al-Qaida plot to bomb and kill commuters. Dayoub said Ahmed, a naturalized citizen, has lived in this country since 1993.

The bombing plot was a ruse begun in mid-April, the FBI said, but Ahmed readily handed over video of northern Virginia subway stations, suggested using rolling suitcases rather than backpacks to kill as many people as possible and offered to donate money to al-Qaida’s cause overseas.

There was no immediate detail on the identity of Ahmed’s unnamed associate, though Dayoub said Ahmed also was accompanied by an unnamed associate on some of his trips to case subway stations. Peter Carr, spokesman for the U.S. attorney in northern Virginia, said the same unnamed individual who wanted to join Ahmed in jihad also accompanied him to the subway stations, but Carr declined to elaborate on the associate’s identity or role. □



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LOCAL Aruba TODAY

General Store Celebrates local Authors

ORANJESTAD - General Store, both in Camacuri and Savaneta announce Celebration of Local Authors on Saturday, October 30th. November 1st, marks International Author's Day and the Aruban Library starts it's yearly celebration on Friday at Centro di Bario Tanki Leendert. General Store wanted to anticipate on this celebration by promoting reading and lecturing. Kids between the ages of 5- 15, who purchase a book by a local Author to donate to the Aruba Library will receive a 10% discount on all purchased made that day and be eligible to participate in a raffle which will be held at the end of November 2010. General Store Do It Best Savaneta will give these books to the San Nicolaas branch of the Library and General Store Camacuri will give the books they receive to the Library in Oranjestad. "We are proud to help the library system and promote reading for the kids in Aruba knowing, that it benefits everyone," said Kenneth Ponson, General Store's Owner & Director. In addition to donating a book to the Library, kids are also able to draw a painting or write a poem that either portrays or talks about the joys of reading a book or visiting the local Library. These children will also be able to participate in a raffle at the end of November. "We wish to encourage the Aruban kids to read", says Hal Williams, Director of Operations for the company. "Reading is such an important part of human development and opens up horizons, especially for kids, they would otherwise miss". Parents and kids are asked to register for participation by sending their name, date of birth, age, school they attend

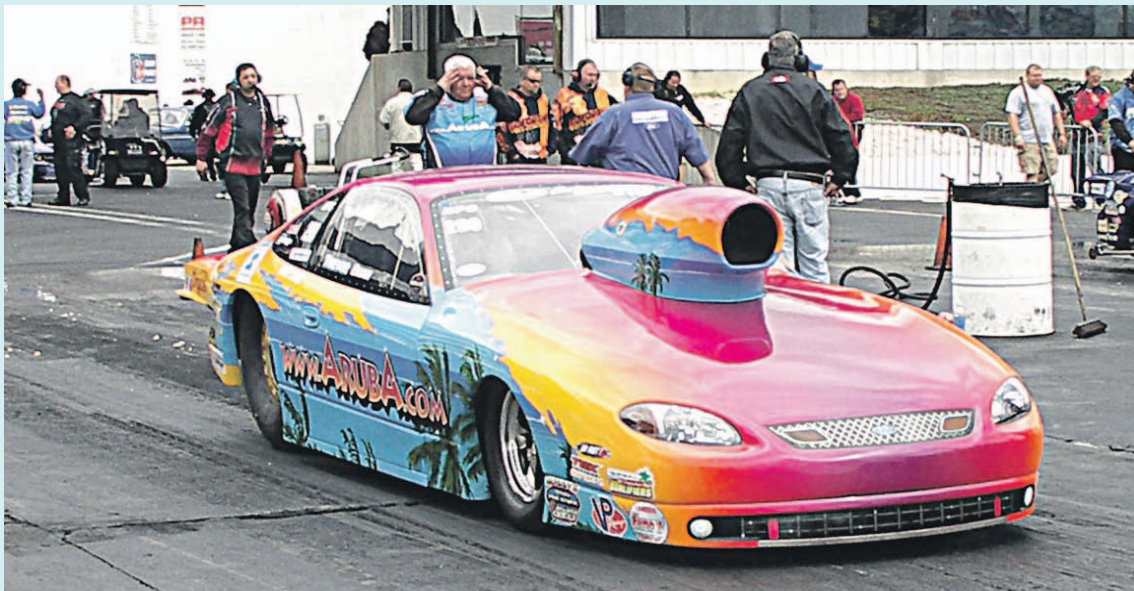
and a phone number to either E-mail: Nancy@generalstore.aw or send a fax to # 58 29909. The celebration starts at 13:00 at both stores, with the presence of several Local Authors, some of which

will bring their books for purchase and signing, while others will engage in storytelling and reviews of their publications. The celebration lasts till 15:00 at both stores. Some of the Authors that

have already confirmed participation are: Desiree Correa, Dolfi Kock, Roland Peterson, Andrea Tchong-Engels, Frank Williams & Gino Vrolijk. Associates of the Public Library will also be

present at both stores. While more Authors are pending confirmation, it looks like the event will be very interesting and General Store hopes that parents and kids will enjoy the activity. □

Rain Halts Final Race As Eman, Team Aruba Focus On Future



TEXAS – Mother Nature put a damper on much of the racing season this year, including day two of the ADRL LenMar Motorsports World Finals at Texas Motorplex. Team Aruba tackled the track in 15 races this season, five in the MMPSA and ten in the ADRL, traveling over 25,000 miles donning the brilliant Aruba colors.

Early in the season in Valdosta, Georgia, Eman and the crew was awarded "Best Appearing Crew", thanks to the amazing uniforms made possible by Greg Ozubo at Vandergriff Apparell. With a good team in place, Team Aruba gained

substantial recognition and couldn't have had the season that they did without the support of Bobby Hicks and Tommy Coon. Ven Eman, Trevor's Father, kept the



team on the track, lining up sponsorships and keeping the dream alive in a tough financial season.

"These guys give 110% all season long and at times it's a grind. I know I personally can't say thank you enough and I know everyone else here recognizes it as well," expresses Eman. "We are a family away from our family and that shows!"

Overall in the ADRL this season, Team Aruba finished 11th in points and 8th in the MMPSA, qualifying for the Shootout. Along with a set of semi-final appearances, there were also some riveting hole-

shot victories, which lead to a storybook best career performance. The Aruba.com Escort saw many exciting moments, and thanks to the Aruba Tourism Board, Cary Goforth, the MMPSA Champion, as well as Bob Bertsch, the Shootout Winner, are headed to Aruba with another special someone for the trip of a lifetime.

Eman and Team Aruba already have some incredible concepts in place for next season and only plan to accelerate their accomplishments both on and off the track. "It's hard to believe this season has come and gone, but I am thrilled for the next time we hit the track," Eman states. "It's going to be great!" Eman says. Team Aruba has some major announcements to make this off season so stay update on all the surprises and check out Team Aruba on facebook! You can also follow Eman and the crew on www.mmppsa.org, or log on to www.adrl.us. The team's personal site can also be found at www.TeamAruba.com. □



Renaissance Marketplace is Halloween Central for Kids & Adults



ORANJESTAD - Last year Renaissance Marketplace and its many stores, boutiques and restaurants, as well as The Cinemas, made a name for themselves with a Halloween event that was second to none, and worth repeating. On October 30, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. the popular shopping, dining and entertainment open air Mall is once again organizing a grand costume party for kids. All children are invited to wear their favorite costumes and come to the Marketplace to enjoy Zumba for kids, a dance show by youth group Pierewietje,

making drawings and crafts. The Marketplace's famous Trick or Treat tour is to be enjoyed at each child's own pace – all treats, no tricks! Adding to the excitement, Renaissance Marketplace judges will be watching closely to choose the winners of their costume contest. Kids wearing the cutest, scariest and the most creative costumes will receive nice gifts. Without any doubt, Renaissance Marketplace is where locals and tourists of all ages go for fun and this All Hallow's Eve is no different.



Activities for the children ones are followed by more fun for the entire family and especially for the adults, from 7 o'clock onwards with live



music by Los Intokables, Click and On Cue. All restaurants and lounges will also offer specials for a perfect Halloween celebration with the amazing Aruban "ambiente." "Everyone is invited to come and celebrate the Halloween

weekend with us! And...don't forget to claim your tickets for the Island Extravaganza campaign, offering attractive prizes, including a brand new 2011 Suzuki Grand Vitara," an enthusiastic Zugheila Lindeborg concludes. □



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Youth will seek sponsors to continue international competition

Aruban Windsurfer Ethan Westera wins in Miami



ORANJESTAD - In Miami last week, October 22 to 24, 13 year old Aruban windsurfer, Ethan Westera, placed 1st at the IFCA (International Fun-board Class Association), North American Slalom championships, which the Aruba windsurfing Association has recently joined. Race conditions were perfect, and luckily with plenty of wind for the sailors, and the location at Virginia Key Park was a great spot.

The races that were held were for juniors as well as a women's and men's division, and in addition an open class competition.

With the wind from the East there were about 5 to 8 races a day per class, which made it a very busy time for the people who organized the event.

Young Ethan was sailing in his age group, which is under 15, as well as sailing with the older age group

of under 18. He managed to do very well in both age groups, finishing FIRST place!

The windsurfing level from kids in the Caribbean has always been very high, and we expect to see more from this promising and talented youth, which hopefully will inspire other kids to join the sport that let's you fly over the water and the waves. Good job Ethan keep it up! □

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CAS DI GLAS heroes Siomara, Jean Carlos and Albert "DJ 101"

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ORANJSTAD – Hats off to local heroes Siomara Everon, DJ Jean Carlos Espinoza and DJ 101 Albert Vrolijk! This trio spent four days locked up in Cas di Glas "House of Glass" live on the air fundraising for a portable mammogram for the island of Aruba. The trio spent the entire four days eating only fruits and vegetables as if they were on a cancer diet.

The event held earlier this month generated nearly \$100,000.00.

The organizing team of the event is super happy with the amount, which has been donated by the entire population of Aruba in the hope of being able to buy a mobile breast cancer screening unit. Although the target has not been reached, the overall feeling afterward



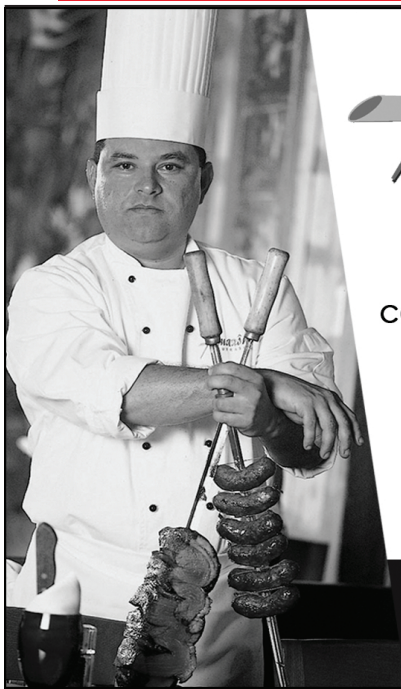
is wonderful:

"Aruba got together for this, they joined forces and made it a truly amazing, successful event," said initiator Peter Ballière, who admits that the initial target amount of AWG. 450.000,-- had been set way too high for a first-time event like this. "Cas di Glas was a

new concept for the island, but now Aruba knows what to expect next year."

Malibu Suites showed their appreciation towards Siomara, Jean Carlos y Albert with a weekend stay to relax and recuperate their energy back after the tough time in the Cas di Glas. □





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Loyal friends honored at the Divi Village Resort



ORANJESTAD - Recently at the Divi Village Resort, vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special

friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of Goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by



the Aruba Tourism Authority Associate Ricardo Croes at the Divi Village Resort, the place they call their home away from home. Ann Marie Crockett was honored as an

Distinguished visitor for the Island of Aruba after visiting for more then 11 years and also Rocco & Rachel Coscio were honored as Ambassadors of Goodwill for the Island of

Aruba.

On picture ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with Mr. Griffith & Gloria and also honorees at the Divi Village Resort. □



November 2010



Contact:

Mrs. Veronica Chema

Mobile: + 297 744 2 441

E-mail: castilloaruba@gmail.com

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French protests weaken but still disrupt flights



An oil worker clashes with French riot police officers as he blocks the exit from where the tankers leave full of gasoline at the Grandpuits refinery, eastern Paris, Wednesday Oct. 27, 2010. France's parliament is expected to grant final approval Wednesday to a bill raising the retirement age to 62, a reform that has infuriated the country's powerful unions and touched off weeks of protests and strikes.

Associated Press

ANGELA DOLAND

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Strikes caused hassles for air travelers in France on Thursday, but nationwide street protests over a plan to raise the retirement age to 62 failed to draw the massive crowds of weeks' past — a sign of slackening resolve among the bill's opponents.

Parliament has already approved raising the retirement age from 60 to 62, but union leaders insist they will not give up their fight until conservative President Nicolas Sarkozy actually signs the bill. Still, fewer protesters followed them into the streets this time, and strikes by train and oil workers have been

tapering off in recent days.

In Paris, demonstrators waved union flags and set off flares, while in southern Marseille, they beat drums and blew whistles. Past demonstrations have drawn more than a million protesters into the streets: This time, the Interior Ministry put the figure at 560,000 nationwide. The hard-line CGT union contested that number, putting turnout at 2 million.

"It's true you could say the anti-reform movement is slowing down, but you need to ask why," Serba Germain, a 67-year-old retired police officer marching in Marseille, told Associated Press Television News. "People are disappointed, they are

frustrated" because the government hasn't listened.

Unions and opposition parties urged Sarkozy not to sign the law, which polls show is unpopular. He is expected to do so by mid-November, after it is cleared by France's constitutional watchdog. Socialist leader Martine Aubry urged Sarkozy to listen to the people. "We will fight until the end," she said. But Sarkozy has refused to back down, even amid two weeks of strikes that canceled trains, shut down oil refineries and left drivers struggling to find gasoline. A small number of trains were canceled Thursday, but the problem was bigger for airlines. A third of flights at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport and half of those at the city's smaller Orly were canceled. Flights were expected to run as normal Friday. Though the strikes are tapering off, the fuel shortages they caused are still a problem. One in five gas stations remain empty or short of gas because of the refinery strike, said the national petroleum industry body. Striking dock workers have exacerbated the shortages. Oil tankers are lined up by the dozens in the Mediterranean off the port of Marseille, waiting to unload. The Normandy port of Le Havre faces a similar situation. Dock workers have been protesting for a month, partly over the pension plan, though their central concern is port reform. Unions see retirement at 60 as a cornerstone of France's generous social benefit system, but the government says the entire pension system is in jeopardy without the reform because French people are living longer — an average of nearly 85 years for women and 78 for men. □

Berlusconi dismisses prostitute reports as 'trash'

NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

ROME (AP) — Premier Silvio Berlusconi on Thursday dismissed as "media trash" reports that two television executives helped introduce an underage girl into his entourage. It's the second time in as many years that Berlusconi has been linked to a purported prostitute scandal. Leading daily Corriere della Sera said Thursday that a news director from Berlusconi's Mediaset empire and a TV impresario had been placed under investigation for allegedly aiding and abetting prostitution involving a 17-year-old Moroccan runaway named Ruby.

Without citing sources, several newspapers have reported that Ruby told prosecutors she attended dinners at Berlusconi's villa in Arcore, outside Milan, although she

has denied having sex with the premier.

Berlusconi's lawyer, Niccolo Ghedini said Wednesday such reports were "completely unfounded."

Asked about the investigation Thursday during a press conference about the garbage crisis in Naples, Berlusconi quipped: "I'm here to talk about real trash. Media trash I leave to you."

Il Fatto Quotidiano, a left-leaning newspaper that is frequently critical of Berlusconi, first reported this week that Milan prosecutors were looking into Ruby's story after police discovered her without documents and reported her to social workers. She reportedly admitted she had lied about being over 18. According to Il Fatto Quotidiano, Ruby's story is full of contradictions and even prosecutors are wary of her

claims.

But Emilio Fede, a Berlusconi confidante who is the news director of Mediaset's Channel 4, acknowledged in comments to the ANSA news agency Thursday that he had met Ruby a few times at Berlusconi's villa. He said he hadn't introduced her to Berlusconi, however, and said he wasn't aware of being under investigation for any actual crime.

"I have luckily been invited to Berlusconi's home for dinners but what I can say is that I have never once seen a dinner end in any way that could be defined as 'transgressive,'" ANSA quoted Fede as saying. It's the second time in as many years that Berlusconi has been linked to alleged prostitutes.

Last year, a high-end escort Patrizia D'Addario made headlines when she claimed she had spent the night with



Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi gestures as he presides over a meeting to discuss the Naples garbage crisis, in Naples, Italy, Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010. Premier Silvio Berlusconi has dismissed as "media trash" reports that two television executives helped introduce an underage girl into his entourage. Italian reports say a 17-year-old Moroccan runaway named Ruby told prosecutors she attended dinners at Berlusconi's villa in Arcore, outside Milan.

Associated Press

the premier and had tape recorded their encounter □

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Yemen leader's hold on country growing tenuous

HAMZA HENDAWI

Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — When the Jidaan tribe in the mountains of central Yemen were angry that they weren't getting enough lucrative government jobs, they engaged in what passes for the normal political process here: Their gunmen seized the main highway and hijacked fuel trucks supplying the capital. In battles last week with police trying to open the road, at least one tribesman and three policemen were killed, a repeat of clashes the previous month, and the month before. Each round of fighting brings negotiations as the government tries to build an alliance and the Jidaan seek concessions.

Multiply that process across Yemen's hundreds of tribes and clans, and the result is low-level violence nearly every week somewhere in the country, with electrical lines getting cut, roads blockaded or even bombs going off at police stations.

Government authority has traditionally been weak or even nonexistent in some areas of Yemen, but rarely as much as it seems now. That could have serious consequences for Yemen and its main Western backer, the United States, which needs a stable regime to fight against a dangerous al-Qaida presence. President Ali Abdullah Saleh has held power for 32 years in Yemen, the Arab world's poorest nation, by deftly manipulating its multiple tribes and factions, passing out money, development



In this Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010 file photo, soldiers from the anti-terrorism force of the Yemeni Defense Ministry take part in an exercise in a training camp at the Sarif district, north of the capital San'a, Yemen. Nearly every week there are low-level battles somewhere in the country, and each round of fighting between security forces and tribesmen brings negotiations as the government tries to build an alliance and the tribes seek concessions.

Associated Press

projects and jobs to keep tribes in his pocket and using divide-and-rule tactics to pressure opponents.

Now his elaborate strategy may be unraveling, critics and experts warn — not least because oil revenues are falling, reducing his ability to buy supporters.

For Yemen, that could mean total chaos or even fragmentation. For the United States, it could mean the weakening or loss of a key partner in the fight against al-Qaida, allowing the terror group to deepen its roots in a country strategically located near vital shipping lanes and some of the world's largest oil and gas fields in the nearby Persian Gulf.

Yemen's tribes have always been highly independent, all but running large parts of the country. But they appear to be growing increasingly bold in defying the central government. Disgruntled tribes have given sanctuary to al-Qaida militants, and months of pressure and cajoling by San'a have brought little sign they're willing to turn them in. At the same time, Saleh has to deal with a growing secessionist movement in the south, which was once an independent nation and where some feel that unity since 1990 has imposed an "occupation" by northerners. A years-long civil war with Shiite rebels in the north, though calm for the moment, has the potential to

erupt again.

Saleh's growing alliance with Washington against al-Qaida is also hurting his standing at home, where resentment of the West, fear of foreign domination and religious conservatives run deep.

Tribes in central Marib province were infuriated when a May airstrike, intended to target al-Qaida militants, accidentally killed the province's deputy governor, a prominent local tribal figure. Angry tribesmen clashed with the army, and bitterness lingers: In early October, a group of Marib tribes sent a delegation to the leader of the northern Shiite rebels in a show of support that was seen as a slap to Saleh.

Al-Qaida militants have also become bolder, staging deadly attacks against security offices, police and army personnel. On Oct. 12, al-Qaida's affiliate in Yemen said it was setting up a "new army" to overthrow Saleh's regime.

Meanwhile, the San'a regime's credibility is undermined by rampant corruption, which leaves many tribes feeling out in the cold when their areas are left without development projects or jobs. "The future of Yemen hinges on wisdom and dialogue," said Sheik Jaabal Tayman, an opposition lawmaker and tribal chief from Marib. "Without them, our future will be bleak."

Saleh's party is trying to negotiate a national consensus agreement with opposition parties, but talks have made little headway. The opposition demands profound political change, including reduction of the president's powers and guarantees of fair elections, while Saleh is offering only limited electoral reforms.

But Saleh wants a deal to bolster his regime's credibility. His ruling party's majority in parliament is expected to be significantly reduced in elections scheduled for April 2011, because of worsening poverty and southern resentment.

"Anyone in power needs legitimacy to continue in power ... half a legitimacy is better than none," said Yasser al-Awadi, a senior lawmaker close to Saleh. "We cannot even dream of winning 240 of parliament's 300 seats again." □

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A worker cleans up a statue of Buddha from volcanic ash from Mount Merapi eruption at the 9th-century Borobudur temple in Magelang, Central Java, Indonesia, Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010.

Associated Press

INDONESIA

Continued from Front Page

The death toll rose to 370 as officials found more bodies, although hundreds of people remained missing. Harmensyah, head of the West Sumatra provincial disaster management center, said

rescue teams "believe many, many of the bodies were swept to sea."

Along with the 33 people killed by a volcano that erupted Tuesday more than 800 miles to the east in central Java, the number of dead from the twin disasters has now topped

400. Mount Merapi began rumbling again Thursday after a lull that allowed mourners to hold a mass burial for its victims. There were no reports of new injuries or damage. The catastrophes struck within 24 hours in different parts of the seismically active country, severely testing Indonesia's emergency response network. Aid workers trickling into the remote region found giant chunks of coral and rocks in places where homes once stood. Huge swaths of land were submerged. Swollen corpses dotted roads and beaches.

In a rare bright spot, an 18-month-old baby was found alive Wednesday in a clump of trees on Pagai Selatan — the same island where the 30-year-old Sageru lived. Relief coordinator Harmensyah said a 10-year-old boy found the toddler whose parents are both dead.

More than 100 survivors crowded a makeshift medical center in the main town of Sikakap on Pagai Utara — one of the four main islands

in the Mentawai chain located between Sumatra and the Indian Ocean.

Some still wept for lost loved ones as they lay on straw mats or sat on the floor, waiting for medics to treat injuries such as cuts and broken limbs. Outside, some rescuers wore face masks as they wrapped corpses in black body bags.

A young woman named Adek sobbed uncontrollably as she tried to talk about her year-old baby who was washed away. "Oh, don't ask me again," she said, wiping her tears and turning away.

One of the hardest hit areas with 65 dead was the village of Pro Rogat, on Pagai Seatandug island.

Villagers there huddled under tarps in the rain and told how many people who had fled to the hills were now too afraid to return home.

Mud and palm fronds covered the body of the village's 60-year-old pastor, Simorangkir. He lay on the ground, partially zipped into a body bag. Police and relatives took turns pushing a shovel

into the sodden dirt next to him for his grave.

His 28-year-old grandson, Rio, traveled by boat to Pro Rogat from his home on a nearby island to check on his relatives after the quake and tsunami. He said he was picking through the wreckage when someone cried out that he had found a body.

Rio walked over and saw his dead grandfather partially buried under several toppled palm trees.

"Everybody here is so sad," Rio said, as relatives prepared to lay his grandfather in the grave.

Officials say a multimillion-dollar tsunami warning system that uses buoys to detect sudden changes in water levels broke down a month ago because it was not being properly maintained. The system was installed after a monster 2004 quake and tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries.

A German official at the project disputed there was a breakdown, saying Monday's 7.7-magnitude quake's epicenter was too close to the Mentawai islands for residents to get the warning before the killer wave hit.

"The early warning system worked very well — it can be verified," said Joern Lauterjung, head of the German-Indonesia Tsunami Early Warning Project for the Potsdam-based GeoForschungs Zentrum. He added that only one sensor of 300 had not been working and said that had no effect on the system's operation.

At the Mount Merapi volcano, hot clouds of ash spewed from the mountain around 4:30 p.m. Thursday, according to the Indonesian volcanology agency Subandriyo. □



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Bahrain detainees allege abuses at coup plot trial

BRIAN MURPHY

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — More than two dozen Shiite Muslims accused of plotting against Bahrain's Sunni rulers described abuses including beatings and electric shocks Thursday at a trial observed by U.S. envoys in one of Washington's most strategic Gulf allies.

The charges against the 25 detainees — ranging from rights activists to a blogger and a dentist — follow months of sweeping crackdowns and unrest that have deeply shaken the tiny island kingdom that hosts the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet.

Washington and its allies are seeking ways to ease tensions between the majority Shiites, who claim widespread discrimination, and the ruling Sunni dynasty, which sees itself as under siege and facing possible proxy threats from Shiite heavyweight Iran. Bahrain has been hit by sporadic unrest for decades as Shiites — who represent 70 percent of the nation's 530,000 citizens — press for a greater political voice and opportunities. Reforms in the past decade, including parliamentary elections, have opened more room for Shiites. But they complain the Sunni-directed system still excludes them from any key policymaking roles or top posts in the security forces.

The trial and claims of jailhouse torture are the latest potential flashpoints and come less than a week after highly charged parliamentary elections.

One by one, the defendants came before the judge to recount punishments that included beatings, electric shocks and sleep deprivation during their weeks in prison.

Some pulled back clothing to point to apparent bruises and other signs of force.

At least one detainee, Jaffar Al-Hessabi, claimed he was sexually abused but did not give details in the courtroom filled with relatives and diplomatic observers. Nearly all the detainees said they were denied contact with family and legal counsel.

"We must investigate this torture," demanded one of the defense lawyers, Jalila al-Sayed.

The judge, Ibrahim al-Zayed, ordered forensic examinations into at least three claims of abuses and set the next trial session for Nov. 11.

"This is not enough," said the lawyer al-Sayed after the ruling. "We cannot continue until the issue of torture is fully exposed."

The group is accused of supporting "terrorist" cells seeking to overthrow the ruling system. The original 23 suspects — whose names were splashed across state media last month — were unexpectedly joined by two other defendants, including a prominent blogger.

The level of concern by authorities was evident in the blanket security around the court in Bahrain's capital, Manama, including anti-riot police and helicopter surveillance. Only one family member for each suspect was allowed in the court gallery alongside observers that included U.S. and European envoys, Amnesty International and other rights groups.

The proceedings were covered by Bahrain's state television, but reporting restrictions were placed on other local journalists.

The latest backlash from authorities began in August with the arrest of several

prominent Shiite right activists. Shiites responded with street riots and wildcat protests. More than 250 people have been detained and several blogs and other media outlets have been silenced.

The original group of 23 includes prominent rights activist Abdul-Jalil al-Singace, who was taken into custody Aug. 13 as he returned from London with his family. The other alleged coup plotters range from professors, taxi drivers and a dentist — all facing possible life sentences if convicted.

The other two suspects include a Shiite political figure and blogger Ali Abdulemam,



Police officers mill about an unidentified Bahraini woman holding a picture of rights activist Abdel-Jalil Singace outside the Manama, Bahrain, courthouse Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010, where the trial opened for him and two dozen others accused of plotting against Bahrain's Sunni rulers. The defendants alleged abuses including beatings and electric shocks at the trial observed by U.S. envoys in one of Washington's most strategic Gulf allies. Singace's name and Aug. 13 detention date are noted beneath his picture.

Associated Press

whose case has been taken up by media freedom groups. In Bahrain's parliamentary elections last week, Shiites held onto their 18 seats in the 40-member chamber but are not expected to gain enough allies for a majority. The second round of voting is Saturday. □

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Margarito hopes to beat Pacquiao, erase scandal

GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Antonio Margarito penitence long ago turned into frustration, and he takes it out on every sparring partner, every heavy bag he punches into submission while preparing to face Manny Pacquiao.

Nearly two years after a hand-wrapping scandal almost ended his boxing career, Margarito still insists he didn't know his former trainer had placed illegal pads over his fists. He's still banned from fighting in California and Nevada — but the commissions can't stop him from training in peaceful Oxnard or a noisy Hollywood gym.

With a new trainer who claims to see significant flaws in Pacquiao's vaunted skills, Margarito is determined to capitalize on the chance to take on the pound-for-pound champion Nov. 13 in Texas in a big-money fight that few believe he deserves.

"It's been really tough, but this is a great opportunity for me, and I have to take full advantage of it," Margarito said through a translator before a workout at the Fortune Gym on Sunset Boulevard. "It's always been difficult for me. They always put tough fights in front of me, and never expect me to do anything, but that's what made me into the fighter I am."

Training is a refuge for the former welterweight champion, and two months of isolation for work have improved Margarito's mindset heading into the fight that could catapult him back atop the sport — or condemn him to also-ran status, unable to fight on the West Coast.

Continued on Page B8

Wozniacki secures year-end No. 1

MICHAEL CASEY

AP Sports Writer

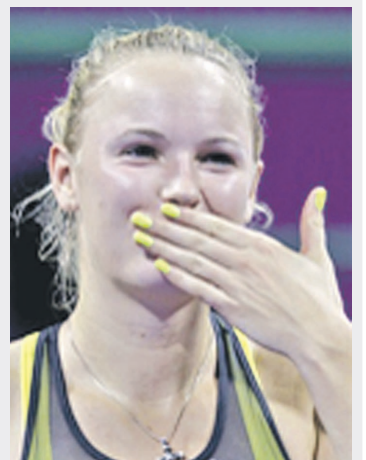
DOHA, Qatar (AP) — Caroline Wozniacki secured the year-end No. 1 ranking Thursday after rallying to beat Francesca Schiavone of Italy 3-6, 6-1, 6-1 and book her place in the semifinals of the WTA Championships.

The 20-year-old Dane becomes the 10th woman to end the season on top of the rankings and the youngest since Martina Hingis in 2000. She replaced the injured Serena Williams at the top earlier this month and has won more titles (six) and more matches (61) than any other player in 2010. "It's really great, that is something I've dreamed about since I was a little girl," Wozniacki said of the No. 1 ranking. "I'm really happy, really proud about what I've achieved this year." Wozniacki admitted even a victory in Sunday's final probably won't be

enough to silence the cynics who say she is undeserving of the top spot as she hasn't won a Grand Slam. But she said she wouldn't let the doubters diminish her achievement.

"To be honest, there will be always skeptics," she said. "There are always people saying you'll never reach the top 10, never reach the top 5 and ... you'll never win a big tournament. If you win a Grand Slam, people will say it was a lucky shot or an easy draw. For me, the most important thing is that I know I had a great season." Wozniacki qualified for the semifinals in second place behind Vera Zvonareva in the Maroon Group. Belgium's Kim Clijsters and Sam Stosur of Australia have qualified from the White Group but will meet each other on Friday to decide who finishes top and therefore plays Wozniacki in the last four.

Continued on Page B3



Caroline Wozniacki from Denmark throws a kiss after she beats Italy's Francesca Schiavone during the third day of Qatar WTA Tennis Championship in Doha, Qatar, Thursday Oct. 28, 2010.

Associated Press

DAILY DOUBLE



San Francisco Giants' Freddy Sanchez hits an RBI double scoring Edgar Renteria during the third inning of Game 1 of baseball's World Series against the Texas Rangers on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

Page B4

Original rules of basketball go to auction Dec. 10

Next Page

Original rules of basketball go to auction Dec. 10



Selby Kiffer, senior vice president of Sotheby's, holds the pages used by James Naismith to write the first basketball rules, during an auction preview at Sotheby's in New York on Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010. The two pages will be auctioned off Dec. 10 and are expected to go for millions of dollars with the proceeds to go to a charity that promotes sportsmanship.

BILL DRAPER

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — It's been nearly 119 years since James Naismith wrote down 13 rules for a new game he devised as a way to give youths at a Massachusetts YMCA an athletic activity to keep them busy in the winter. On Dec. 10, those rules — considered “the birth certificate of one of the world's most popular sports” — will be put up for auction in New York and are expected to bring in at least \$2 million. The proceeds are to go to the Naismith International Basketball Foundation, which

promotes sportsmanship and provides services to underprivileged youths around the world.

Ian Naismith, the foundation's founder and grandson of James Naismith, said it was a family decision to put the rules on the auction block and give the money to the Naismith charity.

“We need to take the money and work the money back into kids,” Ian Naismith told The Associated Press. “We call it recycling. With the economy going south the last couple of years, my stroke, my wife passing away, it was more important to me to have the

game go back into the kids. It's what Dr. Naismith wanted.” James Naismith penned the 13 rules on Dec. 21, 1891, while he was a physical education instructor at a YMCA training school. His boss had given him two weeks to come up with a new indoor activity for his gym class, and he wrote down the rules on the eve of that deadline.

He gave the list to his secretary, who typed them up on two pages that Naismith pinned on a bulletin board outside the gym.

He moved to Kansas in 1898 and became the first basketball coach at the University of Kansas. He coached for nine seasons before assuming other academic duties and serving as athletics director.

One of his players was Forrest “Phog” Allen, who went on to become popularly known as the “father of basketball coaches.”

The two are memorialized on the University of Kansas

campus, where the basketball court at Allen Fieldhouse is named James Naismith Court. Naismith died in 1939, three years after his new game became an official sport at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin.

“It's really the genesis, the birth certificate of one of the world's most popular sports,” said Selby Kiffer, senior specialist in American history documents for Sotheby's, which will conduct the Dec. 10 auction. “It's a sport that has had an impact on everything from fashion, such as sneakers, to culture that in a way transcends sports.

“Basketball is a pure invention,” he said.

Ian Naismith said he has wanted to sell the rules for years, but had never made a serious effort to do so. He said someone offered his father, also named James, \$1 million for them in 1968 and \$2 million in 1973, but they were never sold.

The rules were passed down to Ian Naismith, his brother and sister in 1980 when their father died.

“I'm very proud of the game, proud that it's the fastest-growing game,” Ian Naismith said. “I'm upset about a lot of things taking place in the game, but I don't want to say anything negative. Well, one thing. The LeBron James spectacle, his reality show when he was signing up with a team, I thought that was in poor taste. That's not basketball, as far as I'm concerned.

“It's a different world,” he said. “I live in that world, but sometimes I don't understand it.”

Kiffer said the estimated value of the rules is “\$2 million plus,” but said it's hard to estimate how much the pages will sell for because they are unique.

“The estimate is unusual for us, giving a single-figure estimate,” he said. “Normally we have a high and a low.” □

AP source: Girardi, Yanks agree to outline of deal



New York Yankees manager Joe Girardi answers questions during a news conference at Yankee Stadium in New York, Monday, Oct. 25, 2010. A six-game loss to Texas in the AL championship series was mostly a wipeout, and New York heads into the offseason with gaps in its starting rotation, holes in its bullpen and an offense that never did recover from the loss of Hideki Matsui and Johnny Damon.

Associated Press

By RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

Joe Girardi and the New York Yankees have agreed on the outline of a \$9 million, three-year contract for the manager, according to a baseball official familiar with the negotiations. Although the agreement is not complete, the sides “are dotting the i's and crossing the t's,” the

person said Thursday, speaking on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made. The person said the deal is “going to get done.”

The New York Post first reported the news.

Girardi would be able to earn about \$500,000 more each year in bonuses based on the team's performance.

He is finishing a \$7.8 million, three-year contract that he signed as Joe Torre's successor following the 2007 season. He will get \$3 million annually in his new agreement. A catcher on the Yankees' World Series championship teams in 1996, 1999 and 2000, Girardi managed the Florida Marlins in 2006. When Torre left New York following 12 seasons, Girardi was hired for the Yankees job over Don Mattingly. New York missed the playoffs in Girardi's first year, then beat the Philadelphia Phillies in last year's World Series before losing to Texas last week in the AL championship series. The Yankees have a 287-199 regular-season record in three years under Girardi. □

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WOZNIACKI

Continued from Page B1

Clijsters defeated Victoria Azarenka 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 on Thursday, while Stosur, having won her opening two matches, lost 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (4) to Russian Elena Dementieva.

Wozniacki came into the tournament needing two wins from the group stage to stave off a challenge from Zvonareva for her No. 1 ranking, but she followed Wednesday's defeat by Stosur with more erratic play in the opening set of her match against French Open champion Schiavone.

Schiavone closed out the set with the help of three aces in the final game, but Wozniacki, with the help of some on-court coaching from her father, began to dictate play from the second set onwards.

"Francesca was playing really, really good in the first set and I didn't have too many chances to break her," Wozniacki said. "I just hung in there and kept my focus and tried to get a little more aggressive and not let her dictate the game and that helped me through."

Clijsters, who beat Jelena Jankovic in her first match in six weeks in her opener, began strongly against Azarenka, but the Belarusian, a replacement for the injured Serena Williams, fought back. Azarenka allowed a

5-3 lead to slip in the second set before winning the next two games to force a decider, but the effort appeared too much and she wilted in the heat as the fourth-ranked Clijsters ran off the first 12 of 14 points on her way to closing out an easy third set.

"It was a good match and obviously disappointing to lose that second set. It was close," Clijsters said. "She dropped her level a little bit in third set and everything she was doing well in second set she kind of lost that a little. I was happy with that. I just tried to be aggressive, focused and not let her get back in the match."

Dementieva of Russia, meanwhile, rallied to beat Stosur 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (4) for her first group-stage win, but the Australian made sure of her place in the semifinals by winning the first set.

Dementieva, easily beaten by Wozniacki in her first match, made sure of the first three-set match of the tournament by claiming the second set and then held her nerve a tense decider.

"I was trying to improve my game coming in this match," Dementieva said. "Playing someone who had a great win last night, I was trying to fight for every point and it feels great to win 7-6 in the third."

Stosur, who beat Wozniacki in straight sets on Wednesday, said she didn't see the loss as



Belgium's Kim Clijsters follows her ball in a match against Victoria Azarenka from Belarus during the 3rd day of Qatar WTA Tennis Championship in Doha, Qatar, Thursday Oct. 28, 2010.

Associated Press

a setback.

"Yeah, I would have preferred to have won, there's not a doubt. To lose 6 in the third, it's not fun, but at least you know it's a matter of a few points here and there," the seventh-ranked Stosur said.

"You know, I know at 5-4, love-30 I was two points from winning the match and definitely had some chances to go ahead and do better.

"That's tennis. I'm not going to dwell on it. I tried my hardest and didn't quite come off. That's what happens when you play quality opponents." □





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Giants rough up Lee for 11-7 win in Series opener

BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

— Freddy Sanchez hit three doubles and Juan Uribe launched a game-breaking, three-run homer as the San Francisco Giants more than made up for Tim Lincecum's troubles, battering the Texas Rangers 11-7 in Game 1 of the World Series.

Most surprising, though, was how the Giants handled Cliff Lee on Wednesday night.

"You never think you're going to have success against a pitcher like that," Sanchez said. "He's one of the best pitchers in the game, been unhittable in the postseason."

So much for the unbeatable Mr. Lee.

"I think it's just baseball. That's the only thing you can say," Sanchez said. "This is a crazy game."

The Giants were by far the lowest-scoring team of the eight clubs that made the playoffs this year. They were hitting only .231 in the postseason going into this matchup, totaling 30 runs in 10 games.

"Certainly a huge game for us, and we needed the runs," manager Bruce Bochy said. "We're not a team that tries to slug it with other teams, but today they threw out some great at-bats."

What shaped up as a pitchers' duel between Lincecum and Lee quickly deteriorated into a mismatch. The Giants scored six times in the fifth — their biggest inning in the postseason since 1937 — and turned a 2-all game into a blowout.

By the end, it was



Texas Rangers' Cliff Lee throws during the first inning of Game 1 of baseball's World Series against the San Francisco Giants Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, in San Francisco.

more lopsided than the scoreboard showed. The Rangers played like the World Series rookies they are: They made four errors for the first time 2008, Ian Kinsler took a mistaken turn around first base and was thrown out, and manager Ron Washington may have waited too late to pull his ace.

Lee came into the game with a 7-0 record and a 1.26 ERA in postseason play. Texas gave him an early 2-0 lead, but the Giants swung things in their favor in a hurry.

"I was trying to make adjustments," Lee said. "I was up. I was down. I was in. I was out. I was trying to find it, and I was never really consistent with what I was doing."

Just like that, the Giants

added Lee to their hit list. They have now handed Lee, Roy Halladay and Roy Oswalt their first career losses in the postseason — all in the last few weeks.

"It wasn't quite the game we thought it would be," Bochy said. "Great pitchers, sometimes they're a little bit off."

Sanchez sprayed balls down the lines. Cody Ross and Aubrey Huff hit line drives up the middle. Uribe launched a shot far, far over the wall.

Former Giants slugger Barry Bonds had plenty to cheer for from his seat next to the San Francisco dugout, while Rangers president and part-owner Nolan Ryan sat glumly in a suit and tie, his prized pitcher a wreck.

"I saw the Giants work him pretty good," Washington

Associated Press

said. "We left some pitches in spots we didn't want."

The Rangers did late damage, scoring three times in the ninth. Nelson Cruz hit a two-out, two-run double off Brian Wilson before the Fear the Beard closer finished it off.

Added up, the Giants improved to 10-0 against Texas at AT&T Park. Showers are in the forecast for Game 2 on Thursday night, when Matt Cain and his 0.00 ERA in two playoff starts takes on C.J. Wilson and the Rangers.

Sanchez finished with four of the Giants' 14 hits, which included six doubles. Right after Lee trotted off the mound in the fifth, Uribe greeted sidearming reliever Darren O'Day with a three-run jolt that broke it open.

Sanchez became the first

player to hit a double in each of his first three Series at-bats. He nearly had a fourth, too, but the play was scored a single and an error.

San Francisco had gotten through the NL playoffs because of its dominant pitching, plus an ability to win one-run decisions. None of that came into play on this beautiful night for baseball.

Lincecum struggled at the beginning, making a strange mental error, but settled down as the game progressed.

The shaggy-haired ace walked off to a standing ovation in the sixth, his glove in his right hand and his head down.

At the start, he admitted, nerves got the best of him. He still couldn't explain how he let Michael Young escape a rundown."Maybe a little bit because it is the World Series. It's a first for a lot of us and different kind of atmosphere," he said. "Obviously, I just kind of got outside of myself there."

The Rangers nailed Lincecum for eight hits, two of them shots off his left leg.

What happened to Lee was simply puzzling.

Lee came into the game one win shy of matching the record set by Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez for the best start to a postseason career.

But the lefty who loves to stick to his routine — and his messy hat — was all over the place on eight days' rest. He couldn't control his curve and when he did throw it over the plate, it was flat.

Lee was tagged for seven runs and eight hits in 4 2-3 innings.

"You never see him do that badly," Cruz said. "My guess is it was the layoff but there are no excuses." □



Heat beat 76ers 97-87 in first win for Big 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Dwyane Wade, LeBron James and Chris Bosh experienced their first win with Miami, with the Heat beating the Philadelphia 76ers 97-87 on Wednesday.

NBA Roundup Playing with purpose a night after an 88-80 season opening loss in a hyped showdown with Boston, the Heat's star recruits still did not look comfortable playing with each other, with only Wade— 30 points — looking particularly sharp against the Sixers. James scored 16 points and Bosh had 15. The Heat hit three straight 3-pointers in the third quarter to extend their eight-point halftime lead, however the Sixers, went on a 15-3 run late in the fourth to make it surprisingly competitive.

Cavaliers 95, Celtics 87
In Cleveland, J. J. Hickson scored 21 points and Daniel Gibson added 16 — all in the second half — to overhaul an 11-point deficit in the third quarter and help Cleveland to an unlikely victory over Boston.

Playing its first game in seven years without LeBron James, the Cavaliers stunned the Celtics in their season opener, a win that at least for one night gave local fans reason to believe that there is hope after the departure of the two-time most valuable player.

For the Celtics, Rajon Rondo top-scored with 18 points, while Kevin Garnett recorded 15 rebounds for Boston.

Nets 101, Pistons 98
At Newark Anthony Morrow scored a 3-pointer with just 26 seconds to play to give Russian billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov a win in his first game as their owner with a victory over Detroit.

Brook Lopez led the Nets with 25 points and nine rebounds, and Devin Harris added 22 points and nine assists. Morrow, who was signed a free agent in the offseason, added 13 points and Jordan Farmar and Terrence Williams each had 10.

Knicks 98, Raptors 93

At Toronto, Wilson Chandler scored 22 points while Amare Stoudemire had 19 points and 10 rebounds for New York. Chandler scored eight points in the final quarter and Stoudemire added seven for New York, which led 74-72 through the first three quarters. Andrea Bargnani scored 18 points in the first half but added just four more in the second for Toronto, which had won eight of its previous nine home openers.

Mavericks 101, Bobcats 86

In Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 28 points and had 13 rebounds, while Jason Kidd added 12 points and 18 assists for the hosts.

Jason Terry added 22 points and Caron Butler scored 13 for Dallas.

Tyrus Thomas' 22 points and Gerald Wallace's 16 paced the Bobcats, who have never beaten the Mavericks in 13 meetings.

At Oklahoma, Kevin Durant scored 30 points, Russell Westbrook added 28 points and 10 rebounds as Oklahoma City edged out Chicago.

For the Bulls, Rose scored 28 points to top score in Tom Thibodeau's debut as head coach.

In New Orleans, Chris Paul's 17 points and 16 assists gave New Orleans Hornets' Monty

Williams a victory in his NBA head coaching debut.

David West led all scorers with 22 points, while new starting shooting guard Marco Belinelli added 18 for New Orleans.

Carlos Delfino hit five 3-pointers and scored 19 points for Milwaukee, which led 72-67 late in the third quarter, but fell behind for good when Peja Stojakovic's 3-pointer, his only basket, put New Orleans up 73-72 soon after.

Australian Andrew Bogut had 15 points and 15 rebounds for Milwaukee, but six missed free throws in the fourth quarter were costly.

At Memphis, Joe Johnson scored 22 points and Zaza Pachulia provided a spark off the bench with 17 points and 11 rebounds, leading Atlanta to victory.

Mike Bibby added 19 points as the Hawks shot 53 percent from the field and 87 percent from the free throw line. Atlanta has won its last four season openers.

Grizzlies center Marc Gasol missed the game with a sprained left ankle. During the game, Memphis also lost forward Zach Randolph, an All-Star last season, to a lower back injury.

Mike Conley led the Grizzlies with 23 points and Rudy Gay



Miami Heat forward guard Dwyane Wade (3) shoots over Philadelphia 76ers guard Jrue Holiday (11) and forward Elton Brand (42) during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, in Philadelphia. The Heat won 97-87.

Associated Press

added 21. Darrell Arthur scored a career-high 19 points starting in place of Gasol.

In San Antonio, Tim Duncan registered 23 points and 12 rebounds as San Antonio beat Indiana.

Manu Ginobili scored 22 points for the Spurs, who blew an early double-digit lead and nearly their goal of starting strong in what could be the last season for their Big Three.

In other NBA games it was

Cleveland 95, Boston 87; New Jersey 101, Detroit 98; Miami 97, Philadelphia 87; New York 98, Toronto 93; Atlanta 119, Memphis 104; Sacramento 117, Minnesota 116; New Orleans 95, Milwaukee 91; Oklahoma City 106, Chicago 95; Dallas 101, Charlotte 86; San Antonio 122, Indiana 109; Denver 110, Utah 88; Golden State 132, Houston 128; and Portland 98, L.A. Clippers 88. □

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Kaymer's No. 1 bid gets off to slow start in Spain



Martin Kaymer from Germany, right, salutes his fans before to beginning the 1th tee during the first round of the Volvo Masters golf tournament in Sotogrande, Spain, Thursday Oct. 28, 2010.

Associated Press

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP) — Martin Kaymer's attempt to end Tiger Woods' five-year reign as the world's top-ranked golfer got off to a slow start at the Andalucia Masters on Thursday. The German needs to win the tournament, or finish in second place in a tie with no more than one other

player, but could only manage an opening round of 72, leaving him six shots adrift of leader Pablo Larazabal. Larazabal of Spain broke two shots clear of the field with birdies at the 16th and 17th holes after a bogey-free round of 66, with Northern Ireland's Graeme McDowell and Ireland's Damien McGrane sharing second place after 68s.

Kaymer said before the tournament his priority was winning Europe's second Race to Dubai money list, but that could be in jeopardy after McDowell's strong opening round. The Northern Irishman currently lies second in the table, €995,561 behind Kaymer, but if the U.S. Open champion could win Sunday's €500,000 first prize, the gap would close with four big money events still to be played.

McDowell was Kaymer's playing partner on Thursday as the German missed a putt from 18 inches on the 11th green, drove into a bunker at the next hole and then drove into trees at the 13th.

However, McDowell, whose own 68 included three birdies and no bogeys, said afterwards that it was too early to write off Kaymer's chances of winning his fourth straight strokeplay tournament.

"Martin is never very far away from playing well," he said. "And although he hit a few loose shots he generally hung in pretty well."

"But now I need to stay ahead of him, to win some tournaments and has some strong finishes to have any opportunity of winning the Race to Dubai. I think it is fair to say we are going to be seeing a lot of each other in the next few weeks."

McDowell may not be the only Northern Irish golfer to present a threat to Kaymer over the remaining three rounds. Gareth Maybin is also in the top six, along with Ireland's McGrane and Michael Hoey.

And although none of them would be considered in the same big hitting class as Kaymer, their tight controlled games are ideally suited to the narrow tree-lined fairways of Valderrama. □



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LEGEND OF THE GUARDIANS daily: 4:15 matinee: 12:00 - 2:00 late show: 11:00 PG	THE TOWN daily: 5:00 - 8:00 matinee: 2:00 late show: 11:00 R
LIFE AS WE KNOW IT daily: 6:45 - 9:15 matinee: 12:00 - 2:00 late show: 11:45 PG-13	LEGEND OF THE GUARDIANS daily: 4:15 matinee: 12:00 - 2:00 late show: 11:00 PG
EASY A daily: 4:15 - 6:30 - 9:00 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:15 PG-13	LIFE AS WE KNOW IT daily: 6:15 - 8:45 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:15 PG-13
THE TOWN daily: 6:15 - 9:00 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:30 PG-13	THE SOCIAL NETWORK daily: 6:15 - 9:00 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:30 PG-13
DEVIL daily: 7:15 - 9:15 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:15 R	PARANORMAL ACTIVITY daily: 4:30 - 6:45 - 9:15 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:15 R
CATS & DOGS KITTY GALORE 3D daily: 4:45 matinee: 12:45 - 2:45 late show: 11:00 PG	ERNST, BOBBIE EN HET GEHEIM VAN DE MONTA ROSSA daily: 4:15 matinee: 12:15 - 2:15 late show: 11:00 PG
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 2 daily: 4:00 - 6:15 - 8:45 matinee: 1:45 late show: 11:00 R	

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Neuvirth, Capitals beat Hurricanes 3-0

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) — Michal Neuvirth stopped 29 shots for his first NHL shutout as the Washington Capitals beat Carolina 3-0 on Wednesday to spoil the Hurricanes' first game on home ice.

NHL Roundup Nicklas Backstrom scored two goals, including an empty-netter, and Matt Hendricks also scored for the Capitals. They began a three-game road swing by winning their second straight. The 22-year-old Neuvirth made several highlight-reel stops. He snatched a wrist shot out of the air from Eric Staal, and stuffed a nifty wraparound backhand from 18-year-old rookie Jeff Skinner.

Thrashers 6, Rangers 4

At New York, Niclas Bergfors had a goal and an assist and Atlanta scored twice early in the third period then held on to end New York's winning streak at three games.

Bergfors gave Atlanta a 3-2 lead in the second period and assisted on Dustin Byfuglien's power-play goal in the third that stretched the Thrashers' edge to three goals. Bryan Little, Evander Kane, Eric Boulton and Andrew Ladd also scored and Chris Mason made 24 saves.

Ryan Callahan, Sean Avery, Todd White and Brian Boyle had goals for the Rangers, who started backup goalie Martin Biron over Henrik Lundqvist for the second time this season.

Blackhawks 3, Kings 1

In Chicago, Marty Turco made 33 saves, Viktor Stalberg scored the deciding goal and Patrick Sharp added his NHL-leading ninth goal of the season to help Chicago end a two-game losing streak. Turco, signed to a one-year contract to replace Antti Niemi in the offseason, allowed only Justin Williams' first-period goal. The Kings outshot the Blackhawks 15-8 in the third period, pressuring Chicago until Sharp scored with 2:05 remaining. Jake Dowell also scored for Stanley Cup

champion Chicago.

Stalberg made it 2-1 at 1:18 in the second period, backhanding the puck over goalie Jonathan Bernier's left shoulder off a rebound in the slot.

Lightning 5, Penguins 3

At Tampa, Martin St. Louis blew past Pittsburgh defenseman Ben Lovejoy and lifted a shot over goalie Marc-Andre Fleury to put Tampa Bay up 4-3 with 13:20 to play, then made it a two-goal game with Fleury on the bench for an extra skater with 30.8 seconds remaining.

Dana Tyrell, Teddy Purcell and Vincent Lecavalier also scored for the Lightning.

Pittsburgh got goals from Craig Adams, Matt Cooke and Pascal Dupuis. The Penguins have lost two in a row, including a 1-0 overtime loss at St. Louis on Saturday night, after a four-game winning streak.

Tampa Bay's Steven Stamkos, who shared the NHL goal-scoring title (51) last season with Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby, had three assists. Crosby also registered an assist.

Canadiens 5, Islanders 3

At Montreal, Tomas Plekanec and Jeff Halpern each had a goal and an assist, and Carey Price made 18 saves to help Montreal extend its winning streak to three.

Mathieu Darche, Travis Moen and Andrei Kostitsyn also scored for the Canadiens. James Wisniewski had a goal two assists for New York, while Doug Weight and John Tavares also scored for New York.

Sharks 5, Devils 2

In San Jose, Joe Thornton scored his fourth career hat trick and added two assists in the Sharks' 5-2 victory over the slumping New Jersey. Linemates Patrick Marleau and Dany Heatley each had a goal and three assists, giving the trio 13 points for the game. The Sharks won for the third time in four games, but only for the first time in four home games.

Antero Nittymaki made 37



Washington Capitals goalie Michal Neuvirth (30), of the Czech Republic, defends as Carolina Hurricanes' Jussi Jokinen (36), of Finland, tries to score during the second period of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

Associated Press

saves to improve to 3-0-1.

New Jersey has now lost three seven losses from 10 games David Clarkson and Andy straight and five of its last under first-year coach John Greene scored for the Devils. six to drop to two wins and MacLean. □

WADA praises testing on Tour de France

JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — The World Anti-Doping agency has praised the testing at this year's Tour de France but wants cycling's governing body to be more aggressive and less rider-friendly.

In a report published Thursday, WADA said the International Cycling Union ran thorough tests but was too friendly with some riders, adding that more riders should be taken out of their comfort zone and tested late at night.

"The anti-doping programme at the 2010 Tour was of a good quality," WADA said. "The UCI's anti-doping programme has been forced to evolve rapidly over the past years due to the many instances of doping."

WADA's observers felt there was too much camaraderie with riders, and that a more ruthless approach is needed.

"Many people on the Tour and even those involved in anti-doping on the Tour have, at times, an unhealthy attachment to those competing," WADA said. "The IO (Independent Observers) Team observed a number of occasions where a more aggressive approach to testing riders outside of the Post-Finish sessions should have been undertaken." Fearing that some testing methods are too predictable, WADA wants late-night testing that may catch cheats off guard, even though this could be a hugely unpopular move.

"The UCI would need to accept that if it truly wishes to take the fight against doping to a new level it will not necessarily receive compliments from all riders and teams," WADA said, adding that the UCI should centralize managing the results rather than delegating to national federations. Alberto Contador won the Tour for the third time, but the Spaniard has since been provisionally suspended by the UCI after testing positive for the banned drug clenbuterol

and could lose his title.

Contador claims the traces of the banned drug clenbuterol in his sample came from contaminated steak. He also denied that tests found traces of plastic residues indicating he might have undergone banned blood transfusions. The Tour de France has been rocked by a succession of doping scandals.

American rider Floyd Landis was stripped of his 2006 Tour title after testing positive for testosterone.

New tests for CERA — an advanced form of the blood-booster EPO — led to several riders being caught doping at the 2008 Tour. Among those was mountain-climbing specialist Bernhard Kohl of Austria, who has since been working with anti-doping officials to highlight just how widespread doping is in cycling.

WADA feels others sports are lagging way behind the UCI.

"There are very few anti-doping programmes delivered by International Federations that come close," WADA said.

But WADA thinks the UCI could improve by working more harmoniously with the French Anti-Doping Agency, given the AFLD's proven track record in catching Landis and uncovering the use of CERA. The AFLD and the UCI have been at loggerheads over recent years, with the AFLD's former president, Pierre Bordry, criticizing the UCI's anti-doping program and the UCI responding by cutting the AFLD out of this year's testing.

The AFLD was allowed to do further testing at this year's Tour, but only after WADA intervened. "The lack of cooperation and trust evident between the UCI and the AFLD for the Tour was extremely disappointing to observe," WADA said. "Urgent talks should take place between the UCI and the AFLD to resolve the current impasse." □

Gordon writes off 2010, looking forward to 2011



Driver Jeff Gordon discusses his 2011 sponsorship with AARP and the AARP Foundation Drive to End Hunger during a news conference at Hendrick Motorsports in Concord, N.C. on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CONCORD, North Carolina (AP) — Jeff Gordon has almost finished the lengthy process of building the North Carolina home where he plans to raise his children.

That, team owner Rick Hendrick said, was all the insurance he needs to keep the four-time NASCAR champion behind the wheel of a stock car for a very long time.

Associated Press

“Have you seen that house he’s building? He’s going to be driving at least 10 more years,” Hendrick said this week.

With a new three-year sponsorship announced on Wednesday, Gordon was sure to be driving into at least 2013 to fulfill his new obligation to the AARP Foundation’s “Drive to End Hunger” campaign. Beyond that is anyone’s guess, including Gordon’s.

“There really is no set plan,” he said after his announcement. “Five years ago, I thought 2010 might be my last year. I was having some issues with my back and I just thought maybe I would be ready to step away. But I’m not. I am so passionate about it. I am still competitive and my health, from my back standpoint, has gotten better and that’s giving me years to be behind the wheel.”

But the numbers don’t lie.

He’s in his 18th full season, is 38 years old, has just one win over the last three seasons and is mired in a career worst 61-race drought. And, after starting the year strong and establishing himself as a title contender, he’s fizzled in the Chase for the championship.

With just four races remaining, Gordon is fifth in the standings and declared his championship chances over even before his round of bumper-cars with Kurt Busch last weekend at Martinsville Speedway.

A season that had so much promise early in the year — Gordon was ranked second in the standings for most of the “regular season” — has

petered out and nobody knows why.

“I wish I could answer that,” Hendrick said. “He ran so good, and all of the good luck we’ve had over the years, for him to be so snakebit. Speeding on pit road, that’s just not Jeff Gordon, two of those (penalties). And then just the deal with Busch. It’s been uncharacteristic of that team and again, the way we started, so strong, and the cars have been running good.”

“It’s not from lack of being competitive.

We’ve led a lot of races, we’ve been up front, just for whatever reason, we’ve been a little snakebit.”

But Gordon is realistic.

He’s accepted all year that his No. 24 team wasn’t running at the same level as teammate Jimmie Johnson, Denny Hamlin and Kevin Harvick, who rank first through third in the standings. His only shot, he thought, was to be consistently good over the final 10 races.

But there was a faulty alternator at Charlotte that spoiled his pole-winning start, the wreck with Busch

at Martinsville, and speeding penalties at California and Charlotte.

“We haven’t had some breaks go our way, as well as we need to get ourselves in a position to being more at the front and not make those big gutsy calls to win the race,” he said. “We need to be leading more laps, basically, because when we lead a lot of laps we finish well.”

So Gordon is already looking forward to next year, but hasn’t written off a strong finish to this season.

He knows Talladega is up for grabs, and he could get his seventh career win there this Sunday. Then comes Texas, where he’s been strong since grabbing his first career victory there last year. He was in contention for the victory at Phoenix this spring, and he’s not terrible at Homestead.

“I am looking forward to ending out the season and hopefully we can do it on a positive note,” Gordon said.

“But what I am really focused on is, what do we got to do to be better next year? That’s the nice thing being in the position in points we are right now.” □

MARGARITO MOMENT

Continued from Page B1

His frustration with the Nevada Athletic Commission’s blunt refusal to consider his appeals and the California commission’s intransigence on his suspension has been funneled into determination to win a fight in which few give him a shot.

The seriousness of Margarito’s training is obvious in his physique: He’s already hovering near his fighting weight with almost no visible body fat, and his calves are crisscrossed withropy veins.

“We’ve got two weeks left, but we could be ready tonight,” said Robert Garcia, the trainer who replaced the disgraced Javier Capetillo. “He’s right where I want him physically, and mentally, he says this is the best he’s ever felt. Every single day when we’re driving home in the morning after running, he tells me there’s no doubt this fight is ours. I’ve never seen

him like that before.”

Garcia, also a former fighter, even has the temerity to suggest he sees areas of weakness in Pacquiao’s latest string of dominant victories. While trainer Freddie Roach believes Pacquiao’s speed will make it easy to execute a winning game plan, Garcia claims to know exactly how to counter it.

“In his last six fights, you watch the video and you see a lot of mistakes,” Garcia said. “It doesn’t take a scientist to see them. Our job is to cut the ring off and pick the spots to hurt him. He has speed, but when you have someone as good as Margarito, someone that can take a punch, combined with some of the things I’ve been working on with him, like head movement, it’s going to be tough for Manny.”

The American-born Mexican fighter known as the Tijuana Tornado never had an easy path: Margarito fought for 7½ years before his first title

shot in July 2001, but kept that WBO welterweight belt for six years. After losing it to Paul Williams, he returned with three straight knockout wins, including an 11th-round stoppage of Miguel Cotto in 2008 that stands as the height of his hard-punching, diamond-chinned excellence. Margarito was a celebrity in two countries after that victory, and Garcia believes it went to his head and his waistline. He had to cut 40 pounds to make weight for his January 2009 fight against Sugar Shane Mosley — and when Mosley’s trainer discovered the illegal wraps moments before the fight, Margarito was mentally out of a fight won by Mosley on a ninth-round stoppage.

“When he beat Cotto, he was on top of the world, and then the world came crashing down,” promoter Bob Arum said. “It must have affected him mentally, but he’s a hardworking kid who wouldn’t stop.”



Antonio Margarito, right, of Mexico, trains with Robert Garcia during a workout for his upcoming fight with Manny Pacquiao, Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010, in Los Angeles. Nearly two years after a hand-wrapping scandal nearly ended his boxing career, Margarito still insists he didn’t know his former trainer had placed illegal pads atop his fists. He’s still banned from fighting in California and Nevada.

Associated Press

Margarito owes his resurgent career to Arum, who also promotes Pacquiao. When Floyd Mayweather Jr. apparently refused numerous offers to fight Pacquiao, Arum matched the Filipino

congressman with Margarito in a matchup widely derided by fans and in the media. Margarito can’t apologize for having the right promoter to get the redemptive fight he craved. □

Without driver or map, vans go from Italy to China

By ELAINE KURTENBACH,
AP Business Writer

SHANGHAI — Across Eastern Europe, Russia, Kazakhstan and the Gobi Desert — it certainly was a long way to go without getting lost.

Four driverless electric vans successfully ended an 8,000-mile (13,000-kilometer) test drive from Italy to China — a modern-day version of Marco Polo's journey around the world — with their arrival at the Shanghai Expo on Thursday.

The vehicles, equipped with four solar-powered laser scanners and seven video cameras that work together to detect and avoid obstacles, are part of an experiment aimed at improving road safety and advancing automotive technology.

The sensors on the vehicles enabled them to navigate through wide extremes in road, traffic and weather conditions, while collecting data to be analyzed for further

research, in a study sponsored by the European Research Council.

"We didn't know the route, I mean what the roads would have been and if we would have found nice roads, traffic, lots of traffic, medium traffic, crazy drivers or regular drivers, so we encountered the lot," said Isabella Fredriga, a research engineer for the project.

Though the vans were driverless and mapless, they did carry researchers as passengers just in case of emergencies. The experimenters did have to intervene a few times — when the vehicles got snarled in a Moscow traffic jam and to handle toll stations.

The project used no maps, often traveling through remote regions of Siberia and China. At one point, a van stopped to give a hitchhiker a lift.

A computerized artificial vision system dubbed GOLD, for Generic Obstacle and

Lane Detector, analyzed the information from the sensors and automatically adjusted the vehicles' speed and direction.

"This steering wheel is controlled by the PC. So the PC sends a command and the steering wheel moves and turns and we can follow the road, follow the curves and avoid obstacles with this," said Alberto Broggi of Vislab at the University of Parma in Italy, the lead researcher for the project.

"The idea here was to travel on a long route, on two different continents, in different states, different weather, different traffic conditions, different infrastructure. Then we can have some huge number of situations to test the system on," he said.

The technology will be used to study ways to complement drivers' abilities. It also could have applications in farming, mining and construction, the researchers said.

The vehicles ran at maximum



One of two driverless vehicles, equipped with laser scanners and cameras to detect and help avoid obstacles, travels on the Shanghai Expo site to attend the official celebration of their arrival in Shanghai, China, Thursday Oct. 28, 2010. A team of Italian engineers launched the longest-ever test drive of driverless vehicles, a 13,000-kilometer (8,000-mile), three-month road trip from Italy to China.

(AP Photo)

speeds of 38 miles per hour (60 kilometers per hour) and had to be recharged for eight hours after every two to three hours of driving. At times, it was monotonous and occasionally nerve-racking, inevitably due to human error, Fredriga said.

"There were a few scary moments. Like when the following vehicle bumped into the leading one and that was just because we forgot, we stopped and we forgot to turn the system off," Fredriga said. □



FILE- This Feb. 11, 2009 file photo shows an owner beginning to write a text message on his cell phone in Los Angeles. The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project said in October that 75 percent of teens have a cell phone and that a typical teen sends about 50 texts a day.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, FILE)

By BETH J. HARPAZ,
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Let's face it: Teenagers spend hours texting, socializing on Facebook and playing video games. And it's driving their parents nuts.

Sure, there are real dangers associated with all this screen time — everything from cyberbullying to couch-potato obesity. Not to mention driving while texting, shortened attention spans and Internet porn.

But many of today's parents spent hours as kids sitting in

front of screens too — only they were TV screens.

Which raises an interesting question: Is Facebook really worse for teenagers' brains than the mindless reruns of "Gilligan's Island" and "The Brady Bunch" that their parents consumed growing up?

Douglas Gentile, a child psychologist and associate professor at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, who studies the effects of media on children, says texting, Facebook and video

Are texting and Facebook worse for teens than TV?

games are not inherently bad. Nor are they inherently better or worse than watching TV, although they do pose different risks, such as cyberbullying.

But research has shown that the more time kids spend in front of screens — whether it's TV or instant-messaging — the worse their school performance. "That doesn't mean it's true for every kid, but it makes sense, that for every hour a kid is playing video games, it's an hour that they're not doing homework or reading or exploring or creating," he said.

Gentile calls this the "displacement hypothesis. If screen time is displacing doing their homework, that's bad. But if their homework is done, well, so what?"

Gentile, who admits that his own teenager crossed the "9,000 texts in one month barrier" last summer, acknowledged that parents are struggling to adjust to a world in which kids would

rather look at words on a cell phone screen than have a conversation.

"The older generation, it's not their culture," he said. "There is a resistance to it."

Watching TV as a family, as mindless as that experience can be, is now regarded with nostalgia by parents. If your kid is sitting in the living room watching "American Idol," you can plop on the sofa with them, and "it's a shared experience," Gentile said. But if they're texting or video-chatting with a friend from school, "it's a private experience. It's like they're whispering secrets. And we find it rude."

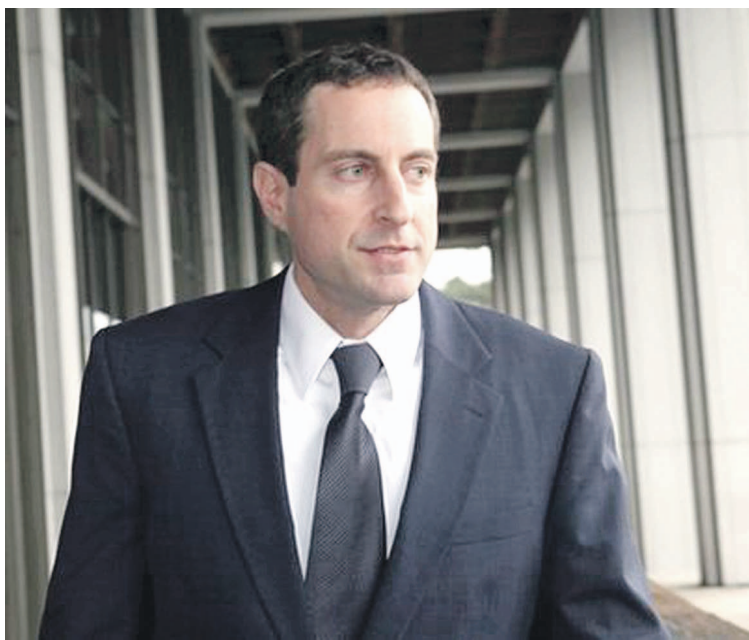
Patti Rowson, a mother of two in Everson, Wash., says this "has been a topic of discussion in our house for years now." She and her husband started out limiting TV time when their kids were little, but "then technology crept in. Cell phones, laptop computers, iPods with Wi-Fi.

We, as parents, were no longer in control of screen time because we could not even tell when they were using it."

Recounting a struggle that will sound familiar to many parents, Rowson said that at first, she and her husband imposed limits on tech use.

"There were battles and even groundings," along with the confiscation of iPods, she said. "We were constantly policing and the kids were constantly getting in trouble. We were trying to fight for the old ways, and it was causing a lot of stress and tension in the family. It was ridiculous. So we loosened up. And it's made everybody happier. We were fighting something that you can't hold back. It's how they communicate with their peers."

What's been the result? Two good kids, she said. "In the end I'm not sure if having boundaries early on helped them or made no difference at all." □



FILE - In this Dec. 11, 2009 photo, Anna Nicole Smith's lawyer and ex-boyfriend, Howard K. Stern leaves Los Angeles Superior Court after a hearing of the conspiracy trial of Howard K. Stern, Kapoor and Dr. Khristine Eroshevich. A jury reached verdicts Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010 in the Anna Nicole Smith drug conspiracy trial in which the boyfriend-lawyer and two doctors of the former Playboy model were accused of providing her with excessive amounts of prescription drugs.

(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

ANNA NICOLE

Continued from Front Page

The jury acquitted defendant Dr. Sandeep Kapoor of all charges. The jury found the prosecution did not present enough evidence to convict Kapoor of six charges that he provided excessive prescription drugs to Smith. The defendants were charged with conspiracy, excessive prescribing of opiates and sedatives to an addict, and fraudulently obtaining drugs by using false names.

The defendants were not charged in Smith's 2007 accidental overdose death in Florida.

Stern, 41, had been Smith's lawyer, manager, lover and friend since they met in 2001. Testimony showed they were inseparable, even when she was involved with other men. In 2006, Smith donned a wedding gown, and she and Stern had a commitment ceremony on a catamaran off the Bahamas. They exchanged rings and vows but were never legally married.

At the heart of the drug case was the question of whether Smith became dependent on opiates and sedatives after being diagnosed and treated for chronic pain syndrome and illnesses including seizures, migraines and spinal pain.

Superior Court Judge Robert Perry told the jury of six women and six men that a doctor who has a good faith

belief that a patient is in pain is not guilty of a crime for prescribing controlled substances to relieve suffering. While presenting their case, prosecutors displayed multiple prescriptions to Smith for heavy painkillers such as Dilaudid, Demarol, Vicodin and Methadone, as well as anti-anxiety drugs and sedatives including Ambien, Xanax, Valium and Chloral Hydrate. In one month, they said, Smith received 1,500 pills.

The judge, however, warned that numbers of pills were not the measure of addiction.

"To violate (the law) a defendant must willfully and knowingly prescribe, administer or dispense a controlled substance to an addict for a non-therapeutic purpose," Perry instructed the jury.

Each defendant faced a possible maximum sentence of four years in prison if convicted of all the charges. They also could lose their professional licenses.

The story of Smith's final years stretched from Los Angeles to the Bahamas with stops along the way in South Carolina and Florida, where her overdose death at the age of 39 was ruled accidental.

The two doctors also were close to Smith during her final years, and their lawyers portrayed them as angels of mercy trying to help her

before and after she gave birth to her daughter by cesarean then quickly lost her 20-year-old son, Daniel, to a drug overdose.

He died in her hospital room after coming to visit his new half-sister on Sept. 10, 2006. Smith later named the baby Dannielynn in his memory.

Stern initially claimed the baby was his until DNA tests made clear the father was photographer Larry Birkhead, who now has custody of the child. Defense attorney Steve Sadow, who represents Stern, said Smith was the love of his client's life and he would never harm her. He also stressed that Stern was not a doctor and was relying on medical professionals to do the right thing for Smith.

Stern's name was on a number of prescriptions which prosecutors said were intended for Smith.

Kapoor, 42, who was Smith's internist, wrote numerous prescriptions for opiates and sedatives during the period he treated her. His lawyer, Ellyn

Garafalo, said he followed a drug regimen originated by Smith's previous doctor who sold his practice to Kapoor.

Prosecutors Renee Rose and David Barkhurst argued that Kapoor blurred the line between patient and doctor when he was photographed kissing her at a party. They also pointed to a diary in which Kapoor discussed the "mesmerizing" experience of riding with her in a gay pride parade and wondered: "Can she ruin me?"

Eroshevich, 63, was Smith's neighbor and friend before treating her as a psychiatrist. Prosecutors claimed the friendship was a violation of professional ethics and called a pharmacist who testified the amount of drugs Eroshevich requested for Smith at one point would have amounted to pharmaceutical suicide.

The pharmacist refused to fill the request, and prosecutors showed Eroshevich used other pharmacies to get most of the drugs and took them to Smith in the Bahamas.

They also showed jurors photos of Eroshevich naked in a bathtub with Smith as they contended the doctor also lost her objectivity about treatment.

Attorney Brad Brunon, who represents Eroshevich, said prosecutors were trying to prejudice jurors with something irrelevant.

"People on the ground saw her as caring for Anna Nicole Smith," Brunon said of Eroshevich. "And what is her reward? She's dragged through this, her name is ruined, and she's publicly humiliated."

Smith made headlines in 1994 when she married oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall, who was 63 years her senior.

When she died on Feb. 8, 2007, her legal battle for a share of the \$1.6 billion fortune of her late husband was ongoing. It has been carried forward by Stern, the executor of Smith's estate.

The U.S. Supreme Court recently agreed to hear another challenge in the case. □

Actor who played Danno on 'Hawaii Five-0' dies

LOS ANGELES – Stage and screen actor James MacArthur, who played "Danno" in the original version of television's "Hawaii Five-0," died Thursday at age 72.

MacArthur's agent, Richard Lewis, said the actor died in Florida of "natural causes," but no direct cause was specified.

In a career that spanned more than four decades, MacArthur was most recognized for his role as Detective Danny "Danno" Williams on "Hawaii Five-0," which aired from 1968 to 1980. Episodes often ended with detective Steve McGarret, the lead character, uttering what became a pop culture catch phrase: "Book 'em, Danno."

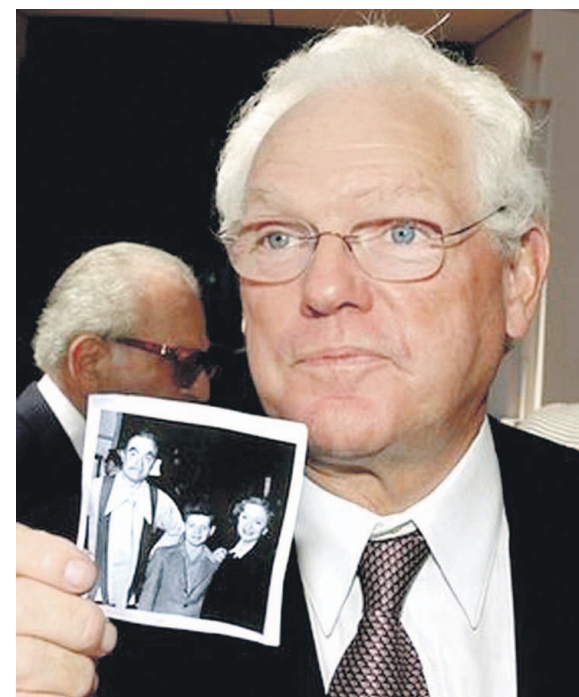
Jack Lord, who starred as McGarret, died in 1998.

MacArthur quit the role of McGarret's sidekick a year before the program's final season.

"Quite frankly, I grew bored," he explained on his website. "The stories became more bland and predictable and presented less and less challenge to me as an actor."

"Hawaii Five-O," one of the longest running crime shows in TV history with 278 episodes, was shot on location in the Hawaiian islands. It was the first Hawaii-based national TV series. The drama has been remade by CBS with a new cast this season.

MacArthur, born Dec. 8, 1937, seemed destined to become an actor. He was the adopted son of playwright Charles MacArthur and Helen Hayes, an award-winning actress often referred to as "First Lady of the American Theatre." Silent film star Lillian Gish was his godmother. "They did teach me a lot about the theatre just through my life with



FILE - In this Aug. 23, 2003 file photo, actor James MacArthur holds a photo from the late 1940s, of himself as a child with his mother, actress Helen Hayes and Bob Hope, as he arrives for 'The Bob Hope Memorial Tribute' show at the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences headquarter in Los Angeles. MacArthur, who played 'Danno' in the original version of television's 'Hawaii Five-0' and was the son of actress Helen Hayes and playwright Charles MacArthur, died on Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010. He was 72.

(AP Photo/Reed Saxon, file)

them," he said of his parents in a 1957 interview in Teen Life magazine. "They never pushed me in any direction. Any major decision has always been my own to make." James MacArthur made his stage debut at age 8 in a summer stock production of "The Corn is Green." □

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Unemployment claims drop sharply to 434K

By CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER,
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON

Fewer people applied for unemployment benefits last week than in any week since July, a hopeful sign that the job market is improving. Still, economists cautioned that the trend would have to continue for several more weeks before a solid conclusion could be drawn that hiring is picking up. Applications for jobless benefits dropped by 21,000 to a seasonally adjusted 434,000 in the week that ended Oct. 23, the Labor Department said Thursday.

It was the second-lowest number for first-time claims this year. The only time it was lower was during the July 10 week, and that week was affected by the Independence Day holiday when state unemployment offices were closed.

Unemployment claims have fluctuated around 450,000 for most of this year, and have fallen below that level seven times. But they have always rebounded in subsequent weeks, and haven't remained below 450,000 for longer than two weeks.

"The drop was unexpected and is a move in the right direction, but it will need to be duplicated in the weeks ahead to indicate that the labor market recovery is gathering momentum," Andrew Gledhill, an economist at Moody's Analytics, said in a note to clients.

The decline in claims partly reflects a drop in layoffs in the construction sector, said Julia Coronado, an economist at BNP Paribas. That sector had seen elevated layoffs in August. But if fewer layoffs in construction are a reason that claims are down, it means



FILE - In this Sept. 29, 2010 photograph, Brian Holbrook reads the Employment Guide while attending a Global Recruiting Solutions job fair in Livonia, Mich. Fewer people applied for unemployment benefits last week, the second drop in a row and a hopeful sign the job market could be improving.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya, file)

hiring may not be picking up much elsewhere in the economy, Coronado said. She expects that the economy generated a net gain of 60,000 jobs in October, while the unemployment rate ticked up to 9.7 percent from 9.6 percent last month. The government will release its October jobs report on Nov. 5. The four-week average of claims, a less volatile measure, dropped by 5,500 to 453,250, the lowest level since the week of July 24.

Applications for unemployment aid fell steadily last year after the recession ended in June 2009, dropping from 600,000 to about 450,000 by January of this year.

Employers haven't done much hiring in recent months with economic growth so weak. The economy grew 1.7 percent in the April-June period, an anemic pace in normal times and even worse in the aftermath of the Great Recession. □

Stocks give up early gains on mixed earnings

By STEPHEN BERNARD,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK – Stocks turned lower Thursday as investors dug through a raft of earnings reports that painted a mixed picture about the economy. The Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 30 points in midday trading. The market rose steadily in the opening moments of trading following a surprise drop in first-time claims for unemployment benefits.

There was encouraging news in results from Eastman Kodak Co., which got a lift as more customers turned to home and office printers, an area the company is ramping up to replace its faltering photographic film business. Motorola Inc.'s phone division was profitable for the first time in three years as the company bets consumers will snap up more smart phones like the Droid X.

But strong results at those companies were offset by disappointments at 3M Co. and Avon Products Inc. 3M's grim view about the U.S. and European economies was a sobering reminder that growth in many developed nations remains weak. The maker of everything from Post-It notes to Scotch Tape called growth in those regions "uninspiring."

In a reversal of recent global growth trends, it was emerging markets that disappointed Avon investors. The beauty products seller said weakness in Brazil and Russia hurt quarterly profits. Many companies have relied heavily on expansion in developing countries to offset lagging sales in the U.S. and Europe.

Rob Russell, president of financial planning company Russell & Co., said weak corporate outlooks also made for a disappointing batch of reports Thursday. 3M cut its full-year forecast. Colgate-



Trader Edward Radziewicz works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Palmolive Co. said it expects sales growth to slow next year, while Apple Inc. warned in a regulatory filing that profit margins might narrow next year.

Mixed earnings over the past few days sapped energy from an upswing on the stock market, which has been on a nearly unbroken rise since early September.

Pharmaceutical companies Bayer AG and Sanofi-Aventis SA and automaker Hyundai Motor Co. kicked off earnings worldwide with upbeat results, sending stocks higher overseas before U.S. markets opened.

A surprise drop in claims

for unemployment insurance provided the most encouragement about the economy. Claims fell to their lowest level in three months, bolstering hopes that companies might start ramping up hiring soon. First-time claims fell by 21,000 to 434,000 last week, while economists had expected a rise. Claims had been hovering around 450,000 throughout much of the year, which is considered a signal that employers aren't firing many people, but not hiring many either.

The Dow fell 31.02, or 0.3 percent, to 11,095.44 in midday trading. □

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HEALTH

Aruba TODAY

High exposure to BPA linked to low sperm count

By LINDSEY TANNER,
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO – Chinese factory workers exposed to high levels of the plastics chemical BPA had low sperm counts, according to the first human study to tie it to poor semen quality.

The study is the latest to raise health questions about bisphenol-A and comes two weeks after Canada published a final order adding the chemical to its list of toxic substances.

Whether the relatively low sperm counts and other signs of poor semen quality translate to reduced fertility is not known. Study author Dr. De-Kun Li, a scientist at the Kaiser Permanente Division of Research in Oakland, Calif., noted that even men with extremely low sperm counts can father children.

But Li said finding that BPA may affect sperm is troubling because it echoes studies in animals and follows his previous research in the same men that linked BPA exposure with sexual problems.

If BPA exposure can reduce sperm levels, “that can’t be good” and means more study is needed to check for other harmful effects, Li said.

The study was published online Thursday in

the journal Fertility and Sterility. The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health funded the research.

Andrea Gore, a pharmacology and toxicology professor at the University of Texas who was not involved in the research, called it an important but preliminary study.

The results “are at least suggestive of the possibility that BPA may be one of the compounds that are causing some of these changes” in sperm, she said. But Gore said stronger evidence is needed to prove that BPA is indeed the culprit.

BPA is used to make resins and strengthen plastics and is found in many consumer products: hard plastic bottles, metal food container linings, dental sealants and eyeglasses. Most Americans’ urine contains measurable levels of BPA.

Studies in animals have linked the chemical with reproductive problems and cancer. That’s led to millions of dollars in new research in people.

Steven Hentges of the American Chemistry Council, an industry group, said the study in China “is of limited relevance” to U.S. consumers, who typically are exposed to very low BPA levels that pose no health threat.

The study involved 130 Chinese factory employees who worked directly with materials containing BPA and 88 workers who didn’t handle it and whose exposure was similar to that of typical American men.

Low sperm counts were found in workers who had detectable levels of bisphenol-A in their urine. Poor sperm quality was two to four times more prevalent among these men than among workers whose urine showed no sign of BPA.

The lowest sperm counts were in men with the highest levels of BPA.

BPA in urine was linked with lower-quality semen even in men who didn’t work with the chemical, although their average BPA levels were much lower than in the other group. Li said the average level in this group was similar to that detected in U.S. men. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has been evaluating the chemical’s safety but declined to say if it is considering following Canada’s lead in declaring the chemical toxic.

In an e-mailed statement, the FDA said it is working with the National Institutes of Health and others “to advance scientific understanding of BPA and inform our decisions.” □

U.S. Preschoolers Getting Too Much Screen Time: Study

Two-thirds of preschoolers in the United States are exposed to more than the maximum two hours per day of screen time from television, computers, video games and DVDs recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, a new study has found.

Researchers from Seattle Children’s Research Institute and the University of Washington looked at the daily screen time of nearly 9,000 preschool-age children included in the national Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Birth Cohort, an observational study of more

than 10,000 children born in 2001.

On average, preschoolers were exposed to four hours of screen time each weekday, with 3.6 hours of exposure occurring at home. Those in home-based child care had a combined average of 5.6 hours of screen time at home and while at child care, with 87 percent exceeding the recommended two-hour limit, the investigators found.

Children who went to child care centers had an average of 3.2 hours each weekday at home and while at child care. The average for children who didn’t go to child care was 4.4 hours per day.

Children in Head Start, a program for economically disadvantaged kids, had an average of 4.2 hours of screen time per weekday. But 98 percent of those 4.2 hours occurred at home, the study

authors pointed out.

The study is scheduled for publication in an upcoming issue of the Journal of Pediatrics.

“A majority of children under the age of 5 years in the United States spend almost 40 hours a week with caregivers other than their parents, and it’s important to understand what kind of screen-time exposure children are getting with these other caregivers,” study author Dr. Pooja Tandon said in a news release from the journal’s publisher.

Few states regulate the amount of screen time in licensed day-care settings, even though such rules would be helpful, she suggested.

“Parents can also play an important role by making sure all of their child’s caregivers are aware of the AAP’s advice regarding screen time,” Tandon said. □

PTSD Linked to ‘Hyperactivity’ in Right Brain

The flashbacks experienced by people with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are associated with heightened activity on the right side of the brain, a new study finds.

In research that included 80 people with PTSD (many of them U.S. combat veterans), 18 PTSD patients in remission and 284 people without the condition, researchers used a technique called MEG (magnetoencephalography) to detect magnetic charges given off when neurons in the brain connect and communicate.

Participants were asked to wear a MEG helmet while concentrating on a spot 65 centimeters in front of them for 60 seconds. Compared with the healthy “controls,” the PTSD patients showed “hyperactive” communication between the temporal cortex -- the part of the brain thought to be responsible for reliving past experiences -- and two other areas on the right side of the brain.

The PTSD patients in remission had similar but less pronounced brain activity as those with PTSD.

This “hyperactive” brain state occurred even though the PTSD patients, and all the other participants, were in a relaxed state while undergoing MEG.

“Remarkably, the differences we found between the PTSD and the control groups were documented in a task-free state,” the researchers wrote. They added that in people with PTSD, the right hemisphere was overactive even when individuals were not reliving a traumatic experience.

The study -- conducted by the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the University of Minnesota -- appears in the Oct. 28 issue of the Journal of Neural Engineering. □



True Cost of Smoking: Up to \$150 a Pack

In Spain, a pack of cigarettes costs between \$4.20 and \$5.60 (€3 to €4). But factor in the cost of a premature death - a cost borne solely by the smoker - and the price tag for a pack rises to \$150 (€107) for men and \$105 (€75) for women. The researchers behind this calculation say that understanding the true cost will help prevent smoking. While the numbers may differ, the Spanish results should speak to smokers around the world, including in the United States. [Infographic: Who Still Smokes?]

"Given that tobacco consumption raises the risk of death in comparison with nonsmokers, it can be assigned a premature death cost for people who do smoke," said study researcher Ángel López Nicolás, of the Polytechnic University of Cartagena in Spain. Smoking shaves an average of 7.13 years off the life expectancy of a man and 4.5 years for a woman, according to Nicolás. Their calculation relies on the Value of a Statistical Life (VSL). As an estimate of the tradeoff between monetary cost and safety, VSL can be used to describe the amount a person, or government, is willing to spend to reduce the cost of death.

Nicolás and his colleagues combined the VSL for Spanish smokers with epidemiological data on life expectancies for smokers and nonsmokers, as well as data on tobacco consumption, to arrive at the per-pack estimate. Health-care costs were not included. "The mortality cost per pack of cigarettes is highly above its market price," they wrote in the May-June issue of the journal Revista Española de Salud Pública. In the United States, the "true cost" of a pack has been a popular calculation in recent years, yielding a variety of results. A study published in the Journal of Health Economics, which also employed the VSL, found a mortality cost as high as \$222 per pack for men in 2006 dollars. □

Study Finds Green Tea Offers No Protection From Breast Cancer

By Steven Reinberg

Although some research has suggested that drinking green tea might help protect women from breast cancer, a new, large Japanese study comes to a different conclusion.

"We found no overall association between green tea intake and the risk of breast cancer among Japanese women who have habitually drunk green tea," said lead researcher Dr. Motoki Iwasaki, from the Epidemiology and Prevention Division at the Research Center for Cancer Prevention and Screening of the National Cancer Center in Tokyo.

"Our findings suggest that green tea intake within a usual drinking habit is unlikely to reduce the risk of breast cancer," he said.

The report is published in the Oct. 28 online issue of the journal Breast Cancer Research.

For the study, Iwasaki's team collected data on 53,793 women who were surveyed between 1995 and 1998. As part of the survey, the women were asked how much green tea they drank.

This question was asked at the

start of the study and again five years later. During the second survey, the researchers asked about two different types of green tea, Sencha and Bancha/Genmaicha.

Among the women, 12 percent drank less than one cup of green tea a week, while 27 percent drank five or more cups a day, the researchers found. The study also included women who drank 10 or more cups a day.

Over almost 14 years of follow-up, 350 women developed breast cancer, but the researchers found no association between drinking green tea and the risk for developing breast cancer.

In the study, Iwasaki noted that one strength of the research was its prospective design, so that the information was collected before the diagnosis of breast cancer, "thereby avoiding the exposure recall bias inherent to case-control studies."

Dr. Stephanie Bernik, a breast cancer surgeon at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, said that "it's hard to say that there is no benefit from green tea overall, certainly. Maybe there is no benefit for breast

cancer specifically."

Bernik noted that many women are interested in alternative medicine when Western medicine doesn't have the answers.

"We are always looking to learn more about how to improve the outcome of breast cancer and how to reduce the incidence of breast cancer," she said. Women are definitely interested in how they can have a healthier lifestyle."

Jennifer J. Hu, a professor of epidemiology and public health at the University of Miami School of Medicine's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, added that the problem with population-based studies is that when you try to look at one single factor you may not be taking into account other risk factors that can influence the result.

"Also, just by drinking green tea you don't get enough of the [possible cancer-fighting ingredient] to make much of a difference," she said.

Based on these problems, Hu doesn't think this study answers the question of whether or not green tea might help guard against breast cancer. □

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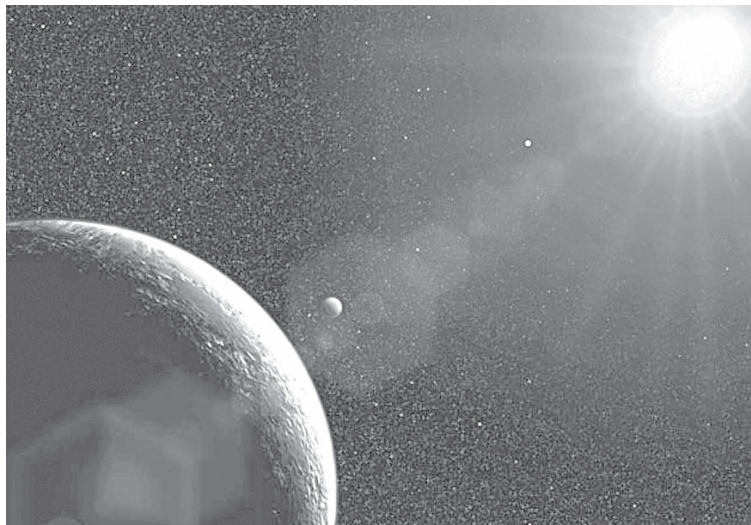
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Earth-Sized Alien Planets May Be Surprisingly Common, Study Suggests



The reigning champ of most Earth-sized planets yet is a world called Gliese 581 e, which circles a star that has four planets total. It is called the smallest because of its mass, which is just 1.9 times the mass of Earth, making it the lightest known alien planet to date. The other planets range in mass from 5 to 16 times the mass of Earth.

Charles Q. Choi

There may be a bonanza of Earth-size alien worlds in the universe, scientists now suggest — nearly 1-in-4 of all sun-like stars might have a planet roughly the size of Earth orbiting close around them.

The new study found that there may be no shortage of planets with masses ranging from five to 30 times that

of Earth, conflicting with previous planet models, researchers said. The findings also suggest that solar systems with Earth-size planets like our own may be common, they added.

The scientists focused on 33 known alien planets orbiting around 22 of the stars, some of which had been first discovered by the researchers themselves. Another 12

exoplanets were detected, but have not yet been confirmed. Astronomers studied sun-like class G and K stars within 80 light-years of Earth with the powerful Keck telescopes in Hawaii for five years. Our sun is the best known of the yellow G stars, while K-type dwarfs are slightly smaller, orange-red stars. In all, they analyzed 166 of these stars, split roughly equally between G and K.

Alien planet-palooza

The researchers looked for any minute wobbles in each star potentially caused by planets between three and 1,000 times the size of Earth orbiting closely around them — just a one-fourth the distance between Earth and the sun.

The scientists estimate that about 1.6 percent of the sun-like stars in the sample had Jupiter-size planets, while 12 percent had super-Earths three to 10 times Earth's mass, the smallest currently detectable. This revealed a trend of increasing numbers of smaller planets, suggesting that planets the size of Neptune and smaller are probably much more common than giants such as Jupiter.

To extrapolate further, "of about 100 typical sun-like stars, one or two have planets the size of Jupiter, roughly six have a planet the size of Neptune, and about 12 have super-Earths

between three and 10 Earth masses," researcher Andrew Howard, an astronomer at the University of California at Berkeley, said in a statement. "If we extrapolate down to Earth-size planets between one-half and two times the mass of Earth, we predict that you'd find about 23 for every 100 stars."

While the researchers spotted an additional 12 possible planets in the new study, they have not been confirmed, said researcher Geoffrey Marcy, an astronomer at the University of California at Berkeley.

If those were included in the count, the team detected a total of 45 planets around 32 stars.

"As NASA develops new techniques over the next decade to find truly Earth-size planets, it won't have to look too far," Howard said. Howard, Marcy and their colleagues detailed their findings in the Oct. 29 issue of the journal *Science*.

Bucking the planet formation trend

The new findings conflict with current models of planet formation and migration.

"These results will transform astronomers' views of how planets form," Marcy said. After planets form a protoplanetary disk, researchers had thought only giant planets spiraled inward. Instead, where current models predict no small planets, the

researchers found a surplus. "I don't know for sure what's missing from the models, but I have a few guesses," Howard told SPACE.com. "One guess is that the disks of gas that planets are thought to migrate within during the birth of solar systems are more complicated than the models allow for. Another guess is that many small planets in a solar system may undergo a phase of scattering off of each other after the gas clears, a sort-of planetary billiard balls."

Based on these statistics, the researchers suggest NASA's Kepler mission to survey 156,000 faint stars for planets will detect 120 to 260 "plausibly terrestrial worlds" orbiting near some 10,000 nearby G and K dwarf stars. "This is a first estimate, and the real number could be 1-in-8 instead of 1-in-4," Howard said. "But it's not 1-in-100, which is glorious news."

What are these planets made of?

The researchers hope to learn much more about extrasolar planets by combining the results of their study with forthcoming data from NASA's planet-hunting Kepler spacecraft. While their study can detect planetary masses, Kepler can measure planet size with exquisite sensitivity.

Since the astronomers only detected planets very near their stars, there could be even more Earth-size worlds at greater distances, including within the habitable zone located at about the same distance as our planet is from our sun.

The habitable or "Goldilocks" zone is the distance from a star neither too hot nor too cold to allow liquid water to be present on the surface.

"By combining the planet masses with planet sizes, we're going to get a sense of the typical planetary densities and we'll be able to figure out whether these small planets we're finding are made mostly of iron, rock, water or gas," Howard said in an interview. □

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Miles despiden a ex presidente Kirchner

BUENOS AIRES (Reuters) - Miles de argentinos despedían el jueves al ex presidente Néstor Kirchner, el peronista que dominó la política del país en la última década y cuya muerte sacudió al Gobierno de su esposa, Cristina Fernández, del que era el principal estratega.

Los restos de Kirchner, quien gobernó Argentina entre el 2003 y el 2007, eran velados a cajón cerrado en la Casa Rosada, a donde una multitud entristecida ingresaba con respeto en la Sala de Patriotas Latinoamericanos del palacio presidencial.

La presidenta Fernández, de luto riguroso y junto a sus hijos, Máximo y Florencia, estuvo horas de pie ante el féretro con el cuerpo de su marido y socio político, recibiendo gritos de aliento, aplausos y abrazos de admiradores, de mandatarios sudamericanos y del astro del fútbol Diego Maradona.

Como una guardia pretoriana, ministros, gobernadores, sindicalistas, artistas, legisladores, funcionarios y dirigentes de organizaciones de derechos humanos

rodearon el ataúd, asistiendo al lento paso de las miles de personas que acudían a rendir tributo a Kirchner.

Analistas políticos especulaban indicando que la desaparición física de Kirchner abriría una lucha por el control del gobernante Partido Justicialista (peronista), el cual lideraba, y también que comenzaba una sorda batalla para influir sobre la presidenta Fernández.

“En el frente político, el país entró, desde nuestro punto de vista, en un período de incertidumbre significativa mientras los actores políticos clave y bastiones de poder político se realinean para llenar el vacío que dejó un peso pesado de la política sin un heredero aparente”, dijo el economista Alberto Ramos, de Goldman Sachs.

La ceremonia fúnebre se extenderá hasta la mañana del viernes, anunciaron autoridades argentinas, y se mantendrán abiertas durante toda la noche las puertas de la Casa Rosada.

Posteriormente, el cuerpo de Kirchner será trasladado a la

sureña ciudad de Río Gallegos, donde nació y en la que inició su carrera política, para su sepultura en el cementerio local.

En las adyacencias de la Plaza de Mayo, manifestantes gritaban y pintaban consignas de apoyo a la presidenta, quien sucedió a Kirchner en el poder en el 2007 y cuyo mandato está marcado para concluir en diciembre del 2011.

“Néstor siempre presente. Fuerza Cristina”, rezaba un cartel próximo a una de las puertas del palacio presidencial, al que llegaron también algunos dirigentes opositores.

“Estando él se pudo hacer todo, dio trabajo, dio salario, ayudó a los jubilados. A mí me dio el plan de asignación. Que Cristina no baje los brazos, que siga como va”, dijo Ramona Delgado, un ama de casa de 20 años vestida con una camisa azul con la leyenda “Movimiento Evita”.

Una pantalla gigante instalada en la Plaza de Mayo mostraba la imagen de la presidenta Fernández, aplaudida a cada rato por niños y personas de todas las edades. □



La presidenta de Argentina, Cristina Fernández (derecha en la imagen), junto a sus hijos Máximo y Florencia en el funeral de su marido, el ex mandatario Néstor Kirchner, en Buenos Aires, oct 28 2010. REUTERS/Argentine Presidency/Handout

Reunión presidentes de Colombia y Venezuela será próxima semana

BOGOTÁ (Reuters) - La reunión entre los presidentes de Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos, y de Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, se cumplirá la próxima semana, anunció el miércoles Bogotá, que aplazó una visita de su canciller a Ecuador por la muerte del ex presidente argentino Néstor Kirchner.

El encuentro entre Santos y Chávez estaba previsto para este viernes, pero fue aplazado a solicitud de Venezuela debido a una reciente gira internacional de Chávez que provocó algunos atrasos en su agenda.

“Se ha confirmado el encuentro entre los presidentes Juan Manuel Santos y Hugo Chávez, el próximo martes 2 de noviembre, en el Palacio de Miraflores, en Caracas”, dijo un comunicado de la presidencia.

Por su parte, la Cancillería de Colombia informó que el viaje a Ecuador de la ministra de Relaciones Exteriores colombiana, María Angela Holguín, se aplazó como consecuencia de la muerte del ex mandatario argentino.

Holguín tenía previsto viajar este jueves a Ecuador para reunirse con su homólogo Ricardo Patiño como parte del proceso que busca normalizar las relaciones diplomáticas entre los gobiernos de Bogotá y Quito.

La reunión entre Santos y Chávez será la segunda entre los mandatarios después de que el 10 de agosto, en la ciudad colombiana de Santa Marta, acordaron restablecer las relaciones diplomáticas y avanzar en la normalización del comercio binacional suspendido desde julio del 2009.

Los vecinos restablecieron sus lazos diplomáticos en agosto, suspendidos por Caracas un mes antes después de que el Gobierno del ex presidente Alvaro Uribe denunció que líderes de las guerrillas de las FARC y del ELN se refugiaban en Venezuela, al parecer con la complacencia del Gobierno de Chávez.

Caracas avanza actualmente en el pago de deudas a los exportadores colombianos que buscan recuperar las exportaciones a ese país que ascendieron a unos 6.000 millones de dólares en el 2008.

Colombia también busca normalizar sus relaciones con el Gobierno del presidente Rafael Correa, alteradas desde marzo del 2008 después de que militares colombianos bombardearon una zona selvática de Ecuador en un ataque en el que murió el líder de las FARC Raúl Reyes y 24 personas más. □

Colombia se acerca a un teléfono móvil por habitante

BOGOTÁ (Reuters) - Colombia se acerca a alcanzar un teléfono celular activo por cada habitante, informó el jueves el Gobierno, que calculó 42,34 millones de abonados a la telefonía móvil sobre una población de algo más de 44 millones.

Los suscriptores activos de telefonía móvil en Colombia crecieron un 1,42 por ciento al cierre del tercer trimestre del 2010, frente al mismo periodo del 2009, cuando se reportaron 42,34 millones de abonados, informó la estatal Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio. Sin embargo, el crecimiento se ha desacelerado.

La operadora Comcel, propiedad del mexicano Carlos Slim y controlada por América Móvil, tiene 28,52 millones de abonados, seguido por Telefónica Móviles, de la española Telefónica, con 9,72 millones de usuarios y Colombia Móvil, de Millicom, con 4,7 millones. □

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